

British tourist stabbed to death and friend knifed on Costa del Sol

By Richard Wigg

Linda Bradley, aged 25, from London who was on holiday in Torremolinos, on the Costa del Sol, Spain was stabbed to death yesterday by three young men when she struggled to prevent them stealing her handbag.

Her friend, Miss Christine Ann Batty, aged 30 also from London, who was strolling along Torremolinos's main boulevard with her was also severely wounded in the attack at 2am. Doctors at the Carlos Haya hospital in Malaga said after performing an operation on her liver that she was making progress although her condition combining shock and loss of blood remained grave.

The two women, who were staying in a Torremolinos Holiday Club hotel, were the latest victims of the so-called

"Tironeros", literally those who pull the violence, on the Costa del Sol, which has been plagued by crime this year.

The girls tried to defend their handbags from the snatchers, although local people, resigned to the crime wave confessed they often prefer to surrender their valuables instead of taking on the knife-carrying criminals.

Those strolling along the illuminated Paseo Maritimo in the early hours, local people say are particularly likely victims of the Tironeros.

According to witnesses who rushed up to help the women as they lay wounded on the ground, the three attackers suddenly got out of a Renault 14 car and demanded the girls' valuables. The three bag-snatchers were able to flee in the confusion.

Linda Bradley was pronounced dead immediately on arrival at the Malaga clinic. The attack, according to local sources, was the first involving the death of a foreign person on the Costa del Sol this summer.

Burglaries, bag-snatchings and thefts from cars have been an almost daily occurrence on the popularly-dubbed "Costa del Crime" this summer in spite of a specially strengthened police force having mounted a security operation "Summer '84" along the 100-mile coastal belt.

British tourists have been among the victims, often of the Tironeros. The British Consulate in Malaga has already issued more than 250 emergency passports this year, nearly all of them replacing those stolen.

Porsche offer man traced to US

By Colin Hughes

The owner of the company which took deposits on Porsche and Mercedes cars to be imported from Germany at cut-price rates and has so far failed to deliver, is now in Long Beach, California, inquiries by The Times show.

Mr Andrew Palmer can be contacted at a firm which trades under the name of Trans-American Import, and is living in an apartment near by.

His firm, based at Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, has taken several thousand pounds in deposits from German car dealers, who would supply him with right-hand drive vehicles which he could deliver.

"When we discovered he had gone we traced him to Long Beach, and are watching him there. We feel as if we're caught in the cold."

A spokesman for Bletchley police, where detectives are inquiring into a complaint by Blues Ltd, said yesterday: "The owner of this company is supposed to be on holiday in America. We have not been in touch with the US police as yet."

"We have spoken to employees of his company in Milton Keynes, who have been most helpful in assisting with our inquiries. We are now trying to ascertain whether there are any further complaints of this nature."

Mr Atkins said: "We have recently set up our firm, Blues Ltd, and this work for Mr Palmer was our first big deal. We prepared promotional leaflets for him, printed balloons for the Brands Hatch promotions tent, laid on food hampers, wine, and girls to attract customers."

"At the last race meeting we decided to buy a Porsche Turbo from him, which he was offering for just over £30,000, which is about £6,000 less than the list price. He said he had contacts with German dealers, who would supply him with right-hand drive vehicles which he could deliver."

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Alert to keep boys in Britain

Scotland Yard and Interpol were on alert last night to stop Professor Muhammad El-Bakly, of the King Faisal University in Oman, who is thought to be leaving Britain with his two sons.

The move came after Mr Justice Wood in the Family Division of the High Court in London yesterday appeared for publicity to trace the boys, who are wards of court.

Professor El-Bakly has failed to return his sons to their mother. The boys, Yaser, aged 13, and Samir, aged seven, both born in Britain, were to be handed back to their mother, Mrs Abia El-Bakly, of Meshaw Crescent, Abingdon Vale, Northamptonshire, on Monday.

Airports record

A record 5.4 million passengers used the seven airports run by the British Airports Authority in July, a 7.4 per cent increase on the previous high level in the same month last year. The airports are Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Prestwick and Aberdeen.

Rates retreat

Mrs Joan Le Mesurier, widow of John Le Mesurier, the actor, has agreed to pay her rates after being threatened with bailiffs. Mrs Le Mesurier had withheld more than £400 in rates in protest about heavy traffic passing her home in Ramsgate.

Suitcase scare

Royal Navy bomb disposal experts used two controlled explosions to blow up a suitcase left in a subway near the railway station at Poole, Dorset, yesterday. Inter-city trains were delayed for 2½ hours. The case turned out to contain only clothes.

TV strike talks

Talks aimed at settling the dispute which has blacked out Thames Television since last Monday will resume this morning, according to a spokesman for the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

Dugdale crash

A car driven by Miss Rose Dugdale, the Sinn Féin member, who was jailed for an £8m art robbery in the 1970s, was involved in an accident in which a man died in Dublin on Thursday night.

Pool baptism

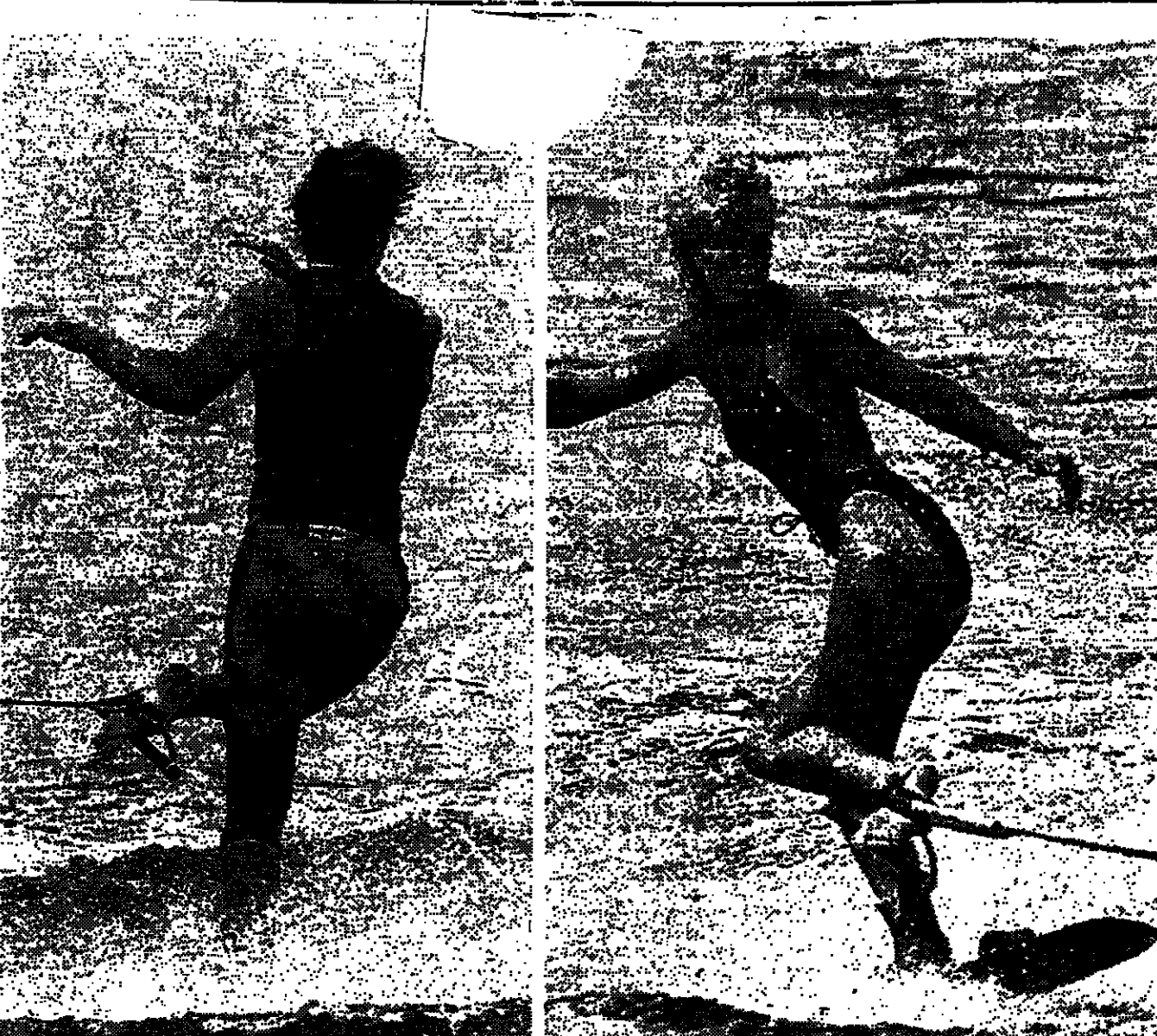
A church in Nuneaton, Warwickshire, will save water by baptizing 25 new members in the town's swimming pool tomorrow. The Rev John King usually baptises people by submerging them in a 3,000-gallon pool outside the Calvary Church.

Poison claim

Police are investigating a claim by an unnamed "loyalist" group that it was responsible for hiding a sealed container of domestic poison among frozen food at Siewarts supermarket, Belfast. No stock was contaminated.

Arsonist hunt

Police were searching for an arsonist yesterday after the eighteenth blaze on the Duffryn Estate, Newport, Gwent. Most attacks were on pensioners' homes.



Fluid movement: Jeff McClintock, of Canada, and Helena Kjellander, of Sweden, in the figures event of the KP world Cup water-skiing contest at Princes Ski Club, Bedford, west London, yesterday (Photographs: John Voos).

Tour operators' failures need £2m rescue

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

An emergency fund set up to compensate holidaymakers when tour operators go out of business may have to find as much as £2m because two failed tour companies' bonds were too small.

This will increase pressures for compulsory holiday insurance, paid for by tour operators.

At present, Sir Kenneth Selby, chairman of the Air Travel Reserve Fund - the "last resort" cash source for holidaymakers' losses - is preparing plans to put to the Government on compulsory insurance.

The biggest bill the fund is likely to face comes after the crash last month of London-based Vantage Holidays, which went out of business with 4,000 holidaymakers abroad and

another 11,000 with holidays booked.

An early estimate of the cost to the fund, taking into account Vantage's bond of about £285,000, was nearly £1.8, but the latest estimates suggest £1.5m or possibly less.

In July, Peter Holden, a Southport-based tour company, collapsed with some 3,000 holidaymakers booked to go abroad. It had put up bond

cash of about £30,000 but the scale of the losses involved could mean a bill to the reserve fund of up to £200,000.

There have been nine other financial collapses among tour operators since April, but bonding and other arrangements have been adequate. However, there are fears in the trade that there are still more to come within the next two months.

Youth stole £10,000 for fruit machines

Richard Ward, a catering student, became so obsessed with fruit machines that he stole more than £10,000 to satisfy the mania that cost him £100 a week. Warwick Crown Court was told yesterday.

Ward, aged 17 of Acocks Green, Birmingham, was sentenced to a year's youth custody after admitting three charges of burglary and asking for 42 others to be considered.

Mr Timothy Raggatt, for the prosecution, said Ward travelled by bus to burglarise houses, where he stole watches, jewellery and coins. "Anything valuable and easily convertible into quick cash, all of which went into slot machines", he said.

From one house alone Ward escaped with property worth £3,000. He was frank with the police and showed them many of the houses he had burgled. "It was a remarkable feat of memory", Mr Raggatt said.

Mr John Saunders, for the defence, said Ward had been a popular and bright student, but his obsession had destroyed his promising future. He had turned to stealing after selling all his possessions.

Mr Saunders said that although Ward had stolen goods valued at £10,127, he had been paid little when he sold them.

Judge Gosling told Ward: "It is terrible for a young man like you with good prospects to be hit by a mania and to satisfy it by committing burglaries."

Baby's mother released

A mother who left her injured baby aged 21 months at Guy's Hospital, London, earlier this week has been released by police after questioning.

The police are looking for a boy friend of the woman. They said the baby's real name is Tyra Neil, not Julie Miller as previously believed. She is very ill on a ventilator.

Pension costs old soldier council security job

A former Army cook has lost his fight for a job with the Labour controlled St Helens district council in Merseyside.

Mr Gordon Lyon, aged 52, who lives in St Helens, has been ruled ineligible for the council's Security force vacancy, which is still unfilled after more than two months.

The ruling has been made despite the fact that Mr Lyon, who left the Catering Corps in 1978 after 22 years' service, has already fulfilled a 12-months council security force contract, finishing with a glowing reference from the chief officer.

Behind the council's decision is his £12.50 a week army pension, but Mr Lyon said: "All I want is a job. It looks as though I am being punished because I once served for my

Queen and country. It is wrong that I should be denied a job and I am going to carry on fighting". The meagre pension has left Mr Lyon with his phone cut off because he cannot pay the bills.

A council spokeswoman confirmed that Mr Lyon had been turned down because he receives an Army pension. She said: "Mr Lyon was in the first batch of people employed with the security force when it was set up."

"Since that time, the council has introduced a policy of not employing people who have taken voluntary redundancy or are in receipt of an occupational pension, so he is no longer entitled to employment with this council." She added that there are still 40 vacancies in the security force.

RAC attacks 'bottleneck' by-pass plans

The Royal Automobile Club yesterday criticized government plans to build new single track by-passes as a "short sighted and cheeseparing" move which would create accident black spots. In a letter to Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister for Transport, it called for an urgent review of by-pass plans to substitute dual carriageways.

Mr Toni Lee, the RAC's director of public affairs, said: "With many by-passes to be started soon, it is vital to ensure that design standards are satisfactory."

The RAC quotes as an example the plan to construct the Liphook-Petersfield by-pass - part of the London to Portsmouth road - with a single track ten metres wide. It says the rest of the route will consist of dual carriageways funneling traffic into a dangerous bottleneck.

Parents gain by buying homes for students

Parents of students at Oxford University are buying houses and flats for them, to overcome a shortage of college rooms, and high rents in the private sector.

After three or four years when their children have finished at the university they are able to sell the property, often at a handsome profit. Some parents buy large houses and rent out the rooms to several students.

Mr John Lewis, of Carter Jonas estate agents, believes the trend of buying property for students is increasing.

He said: "A lot of the wealthier parents are buying small flats and houses for their children. There seems to be a gradual decline in the amount of rented accommodation available."

Some of the flats and houses get some rough use, but the parents rarely lose money on their investment. Mr Lewis said. When they sold the property they were almost certain to make a good profit.

Strangled woman was walking dog

Miss Glennie Coe, aged 27, who was found murdered in a station car park in Guildford, Surrey, was strangled during a five-minute walk to exercise her old English sheepdog.

Her boy friend, who has not yet been named, yesterday gave police a detailed statement about how he found her body. It is understood that he worked with Miss Coe and became concerned about her safety when she failed to arrive for work on Thursday morning.

The murdered woman's next-door neighbour, Mrs Pamela Roper, said that Miss Coe, and

her boy friend often went out for walks together with the dog, called Tara, and would arrive back at the flat late at night.

Miss Coe's body is believed to have lain among weeds on waste ground adjacent to the car park of the busy commuter station.

It was discovered only 100 yards from her home in York Road. Thousands of commuters have passed close to the spot.

Her boy friend had been telephoning the police and hospitals trying to find her after hearing from her employers that she had not arrived for work.

He went to the flat and found the dog very distressed and her purse and office keys still there.

Police said last night that house-to-house inquiries in the area of the station were continuing, although they had no links which pointed to the identity of the killer.

Miss Coe left the North east six years ago and was manageress of Ladbrokes betting shop in Woking. Colleagues there said: "she was extremely popular with everyone and very well liked. We are all terribly shocked at what has happened."

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WINE SELECTOR NO. 5

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1.49
WINE SELECTOR NO. 5

LIEBFRAUMILCH GRÜNE KANNE
2.79
WINE SELECTOR NO. 5

ERBEN KABBETT
2.49
WINE SELECTOR NO. 3

GOLDENER OKTOBER MOSEL
2.69
WINE SELECTOR NO. 4

BLUE NUN
2.79
WINE SELECTOR NO. 5



WHERE A GOOD WINE IS EASY TO FIND

Ambulancemen dismissed for ignoring 999 call about dying boys in tank

Two ambulance officers have been dismissed for treating as a hoax an emergency call about an incident in which two teenage brothers died, it was disclosed yesterday.

The Northumbria Ambulance Service issued a statement about an internal inquiry into the case. It said there had been "a serious breach of standing orders that there should be an immediate response to all 999 calls".

Tony Cowie, aged 16, and his brother Michael, aged 14, of Suffolk Place, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, died on August 18 after falling into a chemical tank.

Patrick Henderson, aged 15, who was with them, called an ambulance, but it was only when the police rang 36 minutes later that one was sent, the statement said.

An inquest into the death of the brothers was opened and adjourned for tests on the contents of the chemical tank at Tank Cleaning Service, Oakwellgate, Gateshead.

The boys' mother said that although it was reported that they had drowned, their bodies had been badly burnt when they were recovered from the tank.

Patrick Henderson, also of Suffolk Place, said yesterday that he doubted whether the brothers could have been saved even if an ambulance had come at once.

"I don't think it would have made any difference, because before I ran for help I looked over the edge of the tank and couldn't see any sign of movement, so I think they were already dead."

He added that when he rang for an ambulance he said it was an emergency several times. "But they didn't seem to understand what I meant."

The statement by the ambulance service said an emergency call was received at 7.30 pm on August 18, but before full details were completed the caller, believed to be a young man, rang off.

"The call was assumed to be a hoax and no ambulance was dispatched until a second call via the police at the scene of an incident at Oakwellgate was received at 8.06 pm."

One of the dismissed officers is a member of the Confederation of Health Service Employees which did not wish to comment before the inquest verdict.

The other officer is a member of the National Union of Public Employees, which also did not wish to comment.

BBC attacked over masts plan

The Royal Shakespeare Theatre and a Conservative MP have accused the BBC External Services of making absurd, misleading and distorted statements about its plan to site a new transmitter near the theatre at Stratford.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, is considering the evidence of a public inquiry into a proposal to put up a transmitter at Bearley, three miles from the centre of Stratford.

The theatre's joint artistic directors, Mr Trevor Nunn and Mr Terry Hands, have said in letters to *The Times* that they think the effect of high-power transmissions on electronic equipment could kill performances and the theatre.

An unsigned BBC External Services defence of the plan, received by Mr Alan Howarth,

Conservative MP for Stratford-upon-Avon, says that the scheme is crucial part of a programme to boost broadcasts to the Soviet bloc.

The memorandum says: "Nothing would please the Politburo more than the self-inflicted wound to Britain's international voice that a refusal of permission to build at Bearley would represent."

It also says that the 24 metre masts, up to 300 ft, would not be visible from Stratford, that "there is no reason to believe that commercial computer installations or equipment at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre will be affected" and that "claims of potential disaster have been extravagant".

But Mr Howarth said yesterday: "It is absurd to suggest that opposition to the choice of the Bearley site is unpatriotic and

that Politburo members attach high importance as to whether planning permission will or will not be given at Bearley."

He said it was "rubbish" to suggest that the masts would not be visible from the town, and a "distortion of reality" to try to convey the impression that the issue was a simple clash between local and national interests.

Responding to the paper's technical arguments, Mr Simon Bowler, the theatre's technical systems manager, said that its statements were "misleading and, on occasion factually incorrect".

Test transmissions at strengths lower than normal broadcasts in terms of bearing or frequency, had caused four "malfunctions" in the theatre's stage lighting console.

Mondale in bold budget challenge to Reagan

From Bailey Morris Washington

Mr Walter Mondale has taken a decision, unprecedented in contemporary American politics, to release a detailed, four-year budget programme outlining the domestic and foreign policy priorities he would tackle if elected president.

The high-risk campaign strategy was adopted by Mr Mondale after weeks of closed-door sessions with advisers who urged the Democratic challenger to take a bold step to channel the campaign debate back to issues and away from personalities.

Public opinion polls have indicated the Mr Mondale has a chance of closing the gap in the presidential race, which officially gets under way on Monday, Labour Day, if he can force President Reagan to debate the issues rather than campaign on his abilities as a leader.

This was the main reason Mr Mondale decided to release, over the next few weeks, a detailed outline of programmes he will pursue to raise taxes and cut defence and domestic projects over the next four years, Democratic advisers disclosed in interviews with *The Times*.

The aim of the campaign strategy was to force President Reagan on the defensive by pressing him publicly to respond to Mr Mondale's programme for reducing record budget deficits with specific priorities of his own.

"Either President Reagan has a plan which he will not disclose or he doesn't have one, which is even more disturbing," an adviser to Mr Mondale said.

Recent public opinion polls taken by both political parties have shown unusually strong voter concern, particularly among businessmen in towns and cities, over the potentially crippling effects of budget deficits projected at up to \$263bn (£200bn) by the 1989 fiscal year.

It was in response to this concern that Mr Mondale took the politically bold step of announcing in his acceptance speech at the Democratic convention last month that he would raise taxes to reduce the deficit if elected.

He attempted to project himself as a strong leader who would take politically difficult steps when necessary. He accused President Reagan of hiding his own intentions, saying he had a secret, which he would not disclose, plan to raise taxes.

Initially, the Mondale strategy appeared to work. Mr Reagan was forced to respond. He began by stating unequivocally he would not raise taxes, but later, under questioning on the campaign trail and in response to pressure from Wall Street critics, he indicated he would raise them only as a last resort.

The tax issue got lost, however, in the furor which developed later over the personal finances and tax repayment records of Ms Geraldine Ferraro, Mr Mondale's running mate.

Over the next few weeks, when the campaign gets under way in earnest, the Democrats hope to take the initiative again by releasing the budget programme and hammering away at President Reagan's record on specific programmes, such as medical benefits for the elderly, and tuition benefits for the middle class, where he is thought to be vulnerable.

Mr Mondale will launch his first official joint campaign schedule with Ms Ferraro on Monday in New York. Following the appearance in Ms Ferraro's home state, the Democrats will make an appearance in Minnesota, Mr Mondale's home state, and then on to California, a crucial state in deciding election outcomes.

From the beginning, Mr Reagan's strategy has been to avoid discussion of specific issues he would reduce the deficit, budget deficit. White House aides have said Mr Reagan does have a plan, but he will not discuss it before the election, because to do so would be "to throw up politically-tough issues for the other side to shoot down", in the words of Mr David Stockman, Mr Reagan's budget adviser.

The disclosures of Mr Mondale's plans followed the announcement by the 1.9 million-member teamsters union that it would endorse the candidacy of Mr Reagan, thus becoming the first trade union to move to the Republican side.



Moving closer: Mr Peres (left) and Mr Shamir in Jerusalem yesterday.

Peres and Shamir may share job

Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister designate, and Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the outgoing Prime Minister, yesterday discussed a draft agreement under which each would head the Government for two years and one month until the next parliamentary elections in 1988.

In separate interviews after their meeting in Jerusalem, the leaders said the proposal was part of a package that could not yet be wrapped up because of differences about the distribution of portfolios and some unsettled points on the government programme.

They will meet again tomorrow evening after consulting their associates. Whatever agreement they reach will have to be ratified by the central committee of their respective parties.

It was learnt that Mr Shamir and Mr Peres have been

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

which occupies six of the 44 Labour Alignment seats in Parliament, said after hearing a report from Mr Peres that they would recommend breaking up the Alignment if the Labour Party went through with the plan as presented.

In the rival camp, the right-wing Tehiya Party talked of going into opposition because they feared that Jewish settlements in the West Bank would be obstructed.

Likud politicians demanded that if Mr Peres claims first shot at the premiership, Likud should be compensated with the defence and foreign affairs portfolios. Under the Peres proposal, Mr Yitzhak Rabin of Labour would be the Defence Minister and Mr Shamir would be Foreign Minister.

Other Likud leaders, including Mr Ariel Sharon, argued that Mr Shamir should be Prime Minister for the first two years.

Mr Peres, negotiating under a mandate from President Herzog, strongly opposed rotating the premiership but softened his stand when it became clear that smaller parties in the splintered Parliament had lined up in a way that made it impossible for Likud or Labour to form a narrow-based coalition. The only options left were new elections or a broad coalition of national unity.

Mr Haim Ramon, a Labour backbencher, said yesterday he was organizing opposition in the Central Committee to the rotation agreement. Leaders of the left-wing Mapam party,

24 missing as jumbo burns on runway

Yaounde (Reuters) - Twenty-four people on an aircraft which caught fire at Cameroon's Douala airport on Thursday were still unaccounted for last night Yaounde Radio said.

In the latest of a series of conflicting reports on the number of dead and injured, the radio said 90 of the 116 people on board were treated for injuries in three Douala hospitals. Earlier it said 100 people died, though later revising this to two people.

The plane, a Cameroon Airlines Boeing 737, caught fire while taxiing to the runway of Douala airport on its way to Yaounde. Police spoke of explosions. An appeal went out to passengers who escaped to present themselves to a commission of inquiry.

Trek to Pole called stupid

Christchurch (AP) - A plan by two Englishmen, Robert Sear and Roger Mear, to walk 870 miles to the South Pole has been attacked by Mr Bob Thomson, director of the Antarctic division of New Zealand's Department of Scientific and Industrial Research as "bloody stupid" and outdated.

"These adventure-seeking people must realize the days for this sort of adventure are over. Two expeditions did it nearly three-quarters of a century ago," he said.

Lawyer holds up power switch-on

Berlin (Reuters) - A West Berlin lawyer, Herr Rainer Guelen, said he has won a court injunction to stop the controversial Buschhaus coal-fired power station from going on stream next Monday. The court in Brunswick upheld his plea that health reasons overrode economic interests, he said.

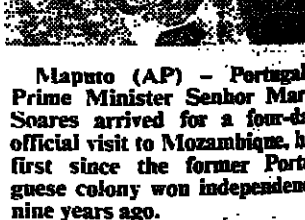
The Lower Saxony state government, claiming it faced huge financial penalties if it withheld a go-ahead, is to appeal.

Diplomat jailed

Frankfurt (Reuters) - A Zambian diplomat, Zulu Banda Mwenyemanzu, aged 46, Second Secretary at the Zambian Embassy in Delhi, was sentenced to 14 years imprisonment for smuggling 27lb of heroin into West Germany. He could not claim diplomatic immunity since he was not accredited in West Germany, where the offence was committed.

Soares back

Maputo (AP) - Portugal's Prime Minister Senhor Mario Soares arrived for a four-day official visit to Mozambique, his first since the former Portuguese colony won independence nine years ago.



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Sex success

Stanford (AFP) - A centuries-old African "love potion", the chemical yohimbine found in tree bark, that makes rats crazy is being tested on humans, researchers at Stanford University in California report.

Hon hijacker

Taipei (AP) - A Hongkong man, Liang Wei-jang, aged 28, who forces a Peking-bound British Airways airliner with 355 people to Taipei last March received an 18-month suspended sentence when the Taipei District Court decided his actions were motivated by his hatred of communism.

'Plotters' freed

Dallas (Reuters) - Four Iranians, four Jordanians and a Syrian, all University students, who were arrested last week suspected of plotting an attack against the Republican Party convention have been cleared of terrorist suspicion and released by police.

Red handed

New York (AP) - A youth who lost a fingertip while allegedly trying to snatch a woman's gold chain through a bus window was arrested when the moment police were handing in the severed digit. It was immediately reattached.

School begins with teachers' pay protest

Thousands of school children will start the new school year on Monday by being sent home early because of protest action by the National Union of Teachers.

The 235,000 members of the union will refuse supervise lunchtimes, cover for absent colleagues or take part in any activities outside school hours.

The action concerns what the union claims are delays in reaching an arbitrated settlement to the pay dispute which disrupted schools for most of last term.

The union says that it prepared its submission to the three-member arbitration panel, once arbitration was agreed, within days. Employers, it says, held up the arbitration meeting by delaying their submission

Sock choked prisoner to death

A prisoner choked himself to death by eating a sock in Winchester Prison, while a fellow inmate watched an inquest jury was told yesterday.

Geoffrey Southwell, aged 50, of Bishop's Road, King's Lynn, Norfolk, was serving a six months' sentence for fraud and motoring offences when the incident happened on July 22, this year.

The inquest at Winchester was told that on the morning of his death, John Harris, a fellow inmate, was cleaning the corridor when he heard strange noises coming from Mr Southwell's locked cell. As he looked in he noticed him shaking on the bed and that one of his socks was missing.

In a statement read to the court he said: "It was common for people to feign illness to get attention. I thought that was what he was doing as I watched him."

Twenty minutes later he reported the incident to Prison Officer Derek Stuart, who told the inquest: "I went to his cell and discovered him lying dead on his bed. Another officer and I tried to resuscitate him but it was too late. The sock from his right foot was missing and there were left-chewed and wet, torn-up letters bearing teeth marks lying nearby."

Dr Robin Ibbett, a Home Office pathologist, said death was caused by choking on a woolen sock.

Mr John Whitelaw, senior medical officer at Winchester Prison, said that Mr Southwell was a known sufferer of epilepsy. He said "I think he put the sock into his mouth during a trance-like fit mistaking it for food and then inhaled it. There was no indication that he was a suicide risk."

The jury returned a verdict of misadventure.

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Man in school drowning riddle loses his job

Mr Dennis Rundle, the man at the centre of the Cathy Pelly drowning mystery, has been dismissed as caretaker of Totnes Primary School in Devon.

Mr Rundle, aged 40, appeared before a disciplinary hearing of Devon County Council on Wednesday.

He has been under suspension on full pay since the nude body of Cathy Pelly, aged 16, was found in the grounds of Dartington Hall School eight weeks ago.

The day after she was found, he went to the police to give evidence about how he had been teaching the girl kung fu on the banks of Folly Pool on the evening of her death.

Mr Rundle, of Colthpark, Totnes, was questioned by police for three days, but no charges were brought. An inquest last week recorded an open verdict on the girl.

John Wayne film for class of 84

Students at four colleges of further education will watch feature films as part of their studies in the new term for Britain's first A-level course in the cinema.

Classics such as *Citizen Kane* and *The Searchers*, starring John Wayne, are included in the syllabus. It will also involve subjects on the workings of the film industry and the Hollywood star system.

Theoretical studies and examination of the way racial groups and women are portrayed in the cinema will also come under the spotlight in the two-year course to be held on two nights a week with places for about eighteen students.

The studies will be at Hammersmith Borough College, West London, Longdon College of Further Education, Essex, South Cheshire College, Crewe, and the Swansea College of Further Education.

Conspiracy charges after peace protest

Nine people, arrested in connection with the peace protest, came outside the American air base at Alconbury, Cambridgeshire, are to appear before Huntingdon magistrates next week, charged with conspiracy to cause criminal damage.

They will be the first anti-nuclear protesters to face conspiracy charges for more than 20 years. They are being charged separately, and the substance of the charges has not yet been made known to their legal advisers.

The use of conspiracy charges is causing alarm within the disarmament movement and outside. Mr Larry Gostin, general secretary of the National Council of Civil Liberties, has suggested that similar charges could be made against anyone using public demonstrations to vent their grievances. He said: "The use of conspiracy charges would present a grave risk to the peace movement and other demonstrators because of their

sweeping nature. They are so ambiguous that they could cover the actions of peaceable demonstrators where there was no threat to public order or any individual."

The Alconbury camp was established on January 15, the anniversary of the birth of Dr Martin Luther King, the US civil rights leader, with the blessing of the Rt Rev Gordon Rye, Bishop of Huntingdon. The campers were evicted by police the next day, and subsequent attempts to reestablish the camp met similar fates.

The base is the home of both F-111 fighter bombers and reconnaissance aircraft, including one of the secret Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird spy planes. It will be the control base for the 64 cruise missiles planned to be sited at RAF Molesworth, a few miles from Alconbury.

The "Alconbury nine" who face conspiracy charges include six people who were arrested at the camp in June. Another three were arrested at later dates. One was arrested when she left Holloway prison after serving a prison sentence for non-payment of a fine imposed in connection with a previous peace protest.

EEC draws up blacklist of terrorists

By Anthony Bevis Political Correspondent

EEC Foreign Ministers have agreed to create an anti-terrorist blacklist to bar people with suspected terrorist links from all 10 member states.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary, says in a Commons memorandum published yesterday: "I am glad to say that there is a growing determination within the Ten to work together to combat the spread of terrorism."

"We have put forward a discussion paper to our partners

setting out proposals for a joint approach in a number of areas. We had a useful discussion in Brussels on 23 July and further work is now under way."

But he then added: "As an example of the kind of measure we are considering, we have agreed that anyone expelled from one of our countries on the grounds of association with terrorism should not be accepted into any other member state."

The agreement appears to go much further than the vague declaration of intent issued after

the London economic summit in June.

After the Libyan People's Bureau shooting on April 17, Mr Thatcher persuaded her summit colleagues to consider further the need for "consultation and as far as possible cooperation over the expulsion from their countries of known terrorists, including persons of diplomatic status involved in terrorism."

Further work on the EEC agreement is expected to be done in Brussels next week, when officials meet again to consider British proposals. It is

expected that Britain will be represented by Sir Julian Bulpitt.

Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, told the Commons on April 25, in a statement on the shooting of WPC Yvonne Fletcher: "I am looking carefully at any evidence that the presence of any individual here is against the national interest, and I am not hesitating to use my power of removal where it is."

Two Libyans have been deported since the shooting."

He signed a further six detention and deportation orders against Libyan nationals

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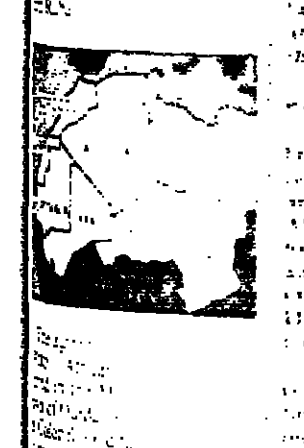
"We have put forward a discussion paper to our partners

Red handed

New York (AP) - A youth who lost a fingertip while allegedly trying to snatch a woman's gold chain through a bus window was arrested when the moment police were handing in the severed digit. It was immediately reattached.

Low-key mark anniversary Solidarity

Libya backs links with Morocco



Maputo (AP) - Portugal's Prime Minister Senhor Mario Soares arrived for a four-day official visit to Mozambique, his first since the former Portuguese colony won independence nine years ago.

Taipei (AP) - A Hongkong man, Liang Wei-jang, aged 28, who forces a Peking-bound British Airways airliner with 355 people to Taipei last March received an 18-month suspended sentence when the Taipei District Court decided his actions were motivated by his hatred of communism.

Dallas (Reuters) - Four Iranians, four Jordanians and a Syrian, all University students, who were arrested last week suspected of plotting an attack against the Republican Party convention have been cleared of terrorist suspicion and released by police.

New York (AP) - A youth who lost a fingertip while allegedly trying to snatch a woman's gold chain through a bus window was arrested when the moment police were handing in the severed digit. It was immediately reattached.

Low-key rallies mark fourth anniversary of Solidarity birth

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Chanting "So-li-dar-nosc", jostling, joining arms and waving carnations, Mr Lech Walesa and more than a thousand Solidarity demonstrators tumbled out of the gates of the Gdansk shipyard yesterday to mark the fourth birthday of the outlawed union.

Police stood by, sardined into personnel carriers and vans, but did not intervene in Gdansk, Warsaw or any of the other expected trouble spots.

Mr Walesa, the Nobel Peace laureate, was obviously determined to avoid any head-on clash with the authorities. After hushing the shouting supporters around the three towering concrete-and-steel crosses near the gates of the Lenin shipyard, he decided not to deliver a prepared speech on the Gdansk accord.

Instead he said simply: "We will meet again on December 16" - the anniversary of the shooting of workers on the Baltic coast in 1970.

The Gdansk agreement, signed by Mr Walesa and the Polish authorities on August 31, 1981, ended a series of strikes by extracting guarantees of better conditions for all Poles, brought Solidarity into life.

During the day, Solidarity protests were low-key. In

British journalist missing in Lebanon

From Robert Fisk Beirut

Amid the collapse of security in Beirut and the artillery duels in the mountains above the city, another journalist - a Briton, working for Reuters - has gone missing after setting off to the scene of an Israeli air raid in the Bekaa valley in eastern Lebanon.

Mr Jonathan Wright, from Oxford, left Beirut early on Wednesday to visit the Palestinian guerrilla base bombed by Israeli jets the previous day, driving his own car over the mountains to the Bekaa. He has not been seen since.

According to Mr Christopher Inwood, Reuters office manager in Beirut, the news agency had made contact with Palestinian officers and Lebanese authorities in the Chitaura area, where the raids occurred. But it is still unclear whether Mr Wright disappeared in the Syrian-occupied Lebanon or in the Christian-held territory west of the mountains, through which he probably passed on his way to the Bekaa.

A correspondent for the American television company, Cable News Network, who was based in Beirut, went missing in the city last March and has not been seen since. Mr Wright - unlike his CNN colleague - spoke fluent Arabic and knew the Bekaa area well.

In West Beirut, meanwhile, hundreds of Shia Muslim Gunmen paraded through the



Beirut rally: Amal leader Nabih Berri with Shia girls commemorating Imam Moussa Sadr.

UN fails to get ban on chemical weapons

From Alan McGregor Geneva

The UN Disarmament Conference concluded this year's session yesterday without any appreciable progress towards its priority of agreeing a text for a new convention to ban chemical weapons.

The same applied to its efforts for achieving a comprehensive prohibition of underground nuclear tests, which are likely to continue as long as the superpowers regard deterrence as their main defence.

It became more apparent than ever during the session that reducing their nuclear arsenals is the key to disarmament negotiations in whatever forum.

High hopes were pinned on prospects for a chemical weapons treaty but to safeguard against clandestine violation, verification being particularly difficult when constituents of the weapons are manufactured for legitimate industrial uses.

An American proposal for inspection of production facilities by "open invitation" was rejected by the Soviet Union, which went no further than offering on-site inspection for verifying destruction of existing stockpiles.

This was described by the US delegate, Mr Louis Fields, as offering a ray of hope.

WASHINGTON: Four men were charged here yesterday with illegally exporting 400,000 chemical warfare protective suits to Iran (Reuters reports).

Discovery launches second satellite

From Mohsin Ali Washington

Discovery's crew, delighted over its success on the first day, launched a second communications satellite yesterday, a Nasa spokesman said.

The satellite was apparently placed in its preliminary orbit. The crew is due to deploy the third and last satellite today.

The second satellite, the Syncom 4, will be leased to the US Defence Department for military communications, the spokesman said.

The crew members, including Judith Resnik, the second American woman in space, capped the first day of their six-day flight with a launch of the first satellite, owned by Satellite Business Systems. Thursday's success delighted the crew and ground control because similar rockets, known as Payload Assist Modules, misfired on a mission in February, sending two satellites into useless orbits.

The satellite launched yesterday is not equipped with a module and has a different type of booster, but the satellite to be deployed today has a module and belongs to American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

The crew will test an extendable solar-power panel for future space stations and will operate an experimental medicine-making machine.

Discovery is due to land at Edwards Air Force Base in California on Wednesday.

Libya backs links with Morocco

Tripoli (Reuters) - Libya's

General People's Congress yesterday unanimously approved a federation agreement between Libya and Morocco signed last month.

The 1,347-member congress met in special session as Moroccans began voting in a referendum also expected to give sweeping support for the plan, signed on August 13 by King Hassan of Morocco and the Libyan leader, Colonel Gaddafi.

The congress secretariat is expected to ratify the federation agreement formally today after receiving the unanimous vote in favour by its members, who represent 186 regional and 25 local people's congresses.

The ratification will coincide with the fifteenth anniversary of the revolution which overthrew the Libyan monarchy and brought Colonel Gaddafi to power in a military coup.

Seven million Moroccans are eligible to vote and a steady flow went to the 25,000 polling stations, according to reports from Rabat.

The agreement to establish an "Arab African Federation" signed in the Moroccan border town of Oujda, is the latest step in Colonel Gaddafi's attempts to achieve his dream of Arab unity.

In 1980, Syria and Libya agreed to form a union which has never been realized because of ideological differences and geographical distance. Colonel Gaddafi has also sought unions with Egypt, now a strong critic of his policies, and Tunisia.

Although Libya and Morocco are 2,000 miles apart, diplomats described the proposed alliance as a marriage of convenience with advantages for both sides.

Morocco could expect a halt to Libyan arms supplies to Polisario Front guerrillas fighting for the independence of the former Spanish Sahara from Rabat.

For Libya, the union neutralizes Morocco in Chad, where Colonel Gaddafi is backing the government of President Hissene Habré.

Hernu seeks solution in Chad

From Diana Geddes Paris

M. Charles Hernu, the French Defence Minister, flies to Chad today to review the 3,300 French troops stationed there and to hold talks with ministers in an attempt to break the deadlock in the civil war between the Libyan-backed rebels in the north and the French-supported government forces in the south.

France feels it has become bogged down in the Chadian conflict which seems no nearer a settlement than when French troops moved in just over a year ago. France wants to get out as quickly as possible but insists that it must be an "honourable exit" - and that means seeing the Libyans force go first, or at least simultaneously.

While it is true that the French presence, which is costing about £250,000 a day, has stemmed the Libyan incursion into the country and has brought the fighting to a virtual halt, it has been achieved only at the cost of a de facto division of the country along the so-called "red line" of the sixteenth parallel.

All attempts to get the warring factions round a table for a peace conference have failed. The talks in Brazzaville in the Congo under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity are still blocked by the refusal of the two antagonists, Mr Goukouni Oueddei and President Hissene Habré, to accept each other's terms.

Mr Goukouni, the main rebel leader in the north and former President, refuses to meet Mr Habré.

Mr Habré, who seized power from Mr Goukouni two years ago, refuses to meet Mr Goukouni.

There have been signs recently that Libya would like to get out of Chad.

The Elysee palace was still refusing to say yesterday where President Mitterrand was or what he was doing. The President's private time was his own, the Palace insisted. Mitterrand has no public official engagements arranged until next Wednesday.

It is thought that M. Mitterrand may have flown back yesterday to Morocco for further talks with King Hassan on the implications of the "treaty of union" between Morocco and Libya for the North African region in general and the Chadian conflict in particular.

Nicaragua Indian leader considers amnesty offer

From Martha Honey, San José, Costa Rica

The Miskito Indian leader, Señor Brooklyn Rivera, says he is considering accepting the Nicaraguan Government's offer to grant him an amnesty and allow him to return home. It is the first such offer made to a leader of any of the rebel military groups.

Señor Rivera, leader of the Costa Rican-based Misurata movement - which is fighting along Nicaragua's Atlantic coast - travels to Honduras today to discuss the amnesty with Miskito Indian elders and other refugees. "In principle I am agreed to go back," he said.

But the Sandinistas must first accept four preconditions, including recognition of Misurata as the legitimate representative of the indigenous people, press freedom, release of political prisoners and negotiations over control of the land and autonomy for the Atlantic coast.

A week ago, the Sandinista junta leader, Señor Daniel Ortega, made public the offer to Señor Rivera.

A close associate of the guerrilla commander, Señor Eden Pastora, said he had also recently received an amnesty offer. "Several Sandinista representatives came and privately made the offer to me. I am thinking very carefully about going back for talks," the official, who did not wish to be named, said.

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Black discontent casts shadow over Botha foray into racial reform

From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg

On Monday South Africa will replace the British-issued Act of Union of 1910 with a new constitution which strongly reinforces an already powerful executive and, for the first time, offers non-whites some direct say in government.

As it sets out on this uncharted terrain, the Government of Mr W. P. Botha can count on the overwhelming backing of the country's 4,600,000 whites, who expressed their view in a referendum last November.

But last month's elections to the new tri-racial Parliament, and the current wave of protest in black schools and universities show he has only minimal support from the 870,000 Indians, 2,700,000 mixed-blood coloureds and 23,000,000 Africans.

Lack of popular support has never deterred Pretoria in the past and neither will it now. The new Parliament may be an unrepresentative sham in many respects. But it will change the rules of the political game in ways not at all easy to predict.

For the first time government policy will be the product of at least a measure of inter-racial bargaining. It seems reasonable to suppose that the 85 Coloured and 45 Indian MPs together with the 27 anti-apartheid white MPs of the Progressive Federal

any immediate surrender of white political control.

On Wednesday the new Parliament will assemble as an Electoral College and it is a foreign conclusion that it will choose Mr Botha as the new President.

Most media attention abroad has focussed on the intricacies of the Parliament. Less has been written about the very great powers of the President who will be head of state and government, will initiate legislation and, together with the President's Council, have the deciding say in the event of deadlock between the Parliament's three chambers.

This raises the intriguing possibility that Mr Botha could choose to side with Indian and coloured chambers against his own party in the white chamber. Some optimists envisage an era of enlightened despotism similar to that exercised by General De Gaulle in France during the Algerian crisis.

More Indians and Coloureds could be attracted to the new constitution over time, but it offers nothing to Africans.

It is the looming shadow of these frustrated and discontented black millions that must ensure that Mr Botha's "new dispensation" can only be a very temporary phase in South Africa's constitutional history.

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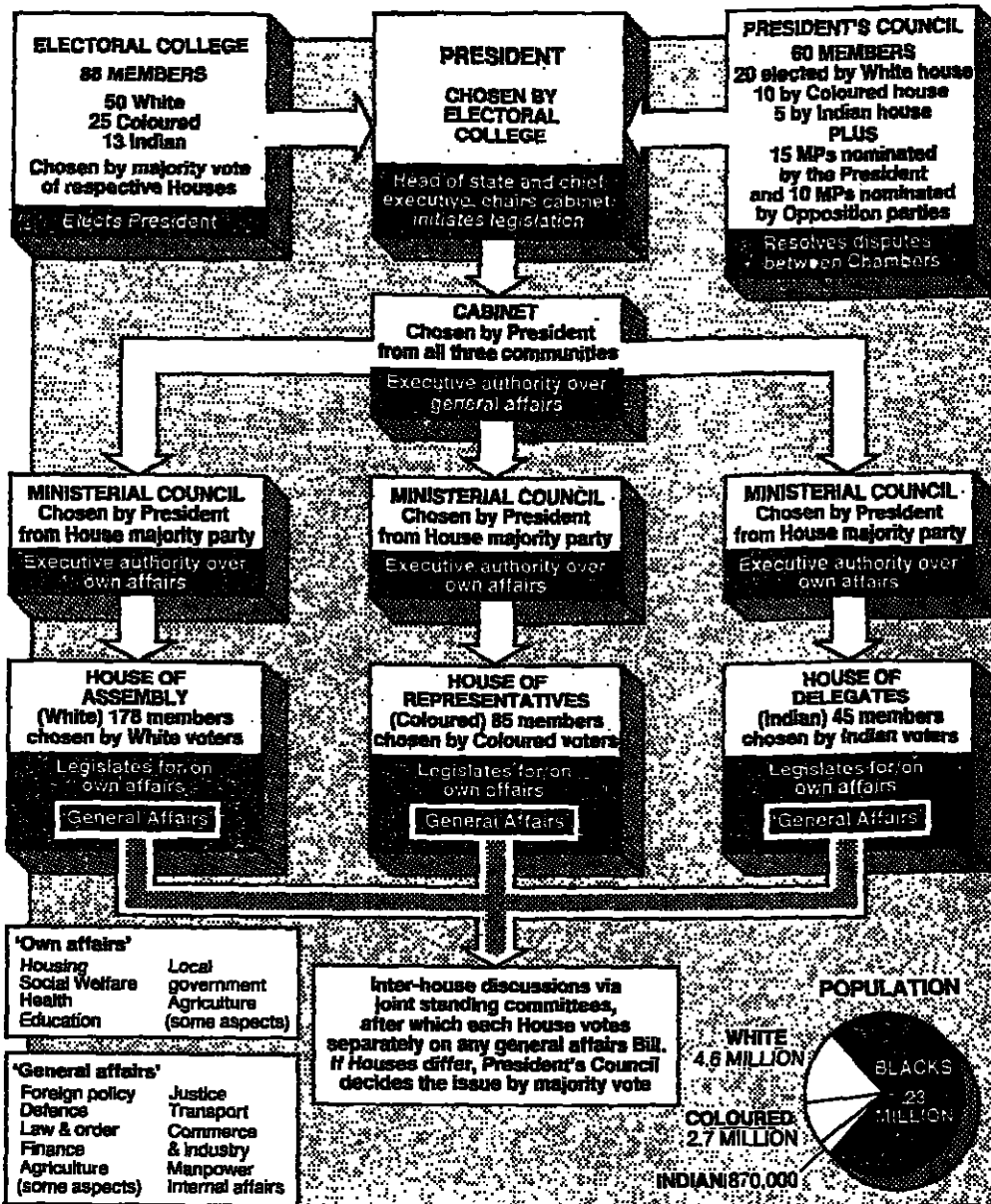
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Seoul resumes its Moscow overtures on KAL anniversary

From David Watts, Tokyo

A year after KAL flight 007 was shot down into the Sea of Japan killing 269 people, President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea is seeking new contacts with the Soviet Union.

He is due here next week for the first official visit of a Korean head of state. Yesterday, it became clear that he will invite the Soviet Ambassador, Mr Vladimir Pavlov, to a diplomatic reception at the Akasaka Palace guest house.

Before the destruction of flight 007, South Korea had been trying to strengthen its ties with Moscow although the country - rigidly anti-communist - has no diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. Commemoration of the KAL victims is being marked this weekend over the spot where the airliner is thought to have gone down, but Realpolitik has overtaken the need to continue punishment of the Soviet Union.

President Chun is also said to be inviting the Chinese Ambassador in Tokyo, Mr Song Zhiguang, for what will be an historic meeting. The Chinese and South Koreans have no diplomatic relations and there was no government-level contact between the two countries until six Chinese hijacked a Chinese airliner to a military air base north of Seoul in May last year.

The six were held until earlier this month and then released to go to Taiwan.

President Chun is keen to expand his so-called northern policy by making contact with communist countries, partly through a desire to make more friends to ensure the success of the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, but also to try to influence North Korea to take a more conciliatory line.

North Korea maintains a position independent of both Moscow and Peking but China and the Soviet Union are virtually the only countries with any chance of bringing influence to bear on the reclusive and potentially aggressive regime of President Kim Il Sung.

There is no indication of whether either or both the Soviet and Chinese diplomats will accept President Chun's invitation, but the President's Japanese hosts hope that the diplomatic opportunities the visit presents will ease tensions on the Korean peninsula and boost the confidence of the Chun Government.

The Korean and Japanese Governments hope that President Chun's visit will help to overcome some of the mutual hatred and suspicion among the ordinary people of both countries. Opinion polls released yesterday in Japan suggest the task will be a long one.

Of the Koreans surveyed, 52 per cent said they thought the Japanese were sly and 28 per cent thought they were malicious; 39 per cent felt they were polite and 33 per cent saw the Japanese as diligent; 58 per cent of the Koreans surveyed in South Korea said they had never liked the Japanese.

Of the Japanese, 40 per cent said there was no appropriate word to describe the Koreans, indicating that the Korean image was vague, according to the poll takers.

FAMILIES PRAY: Members of the families of the victims from flight KAL 007 gathered on a rain-swept hill at Cape Soya, Japan's most northern point, yesterday to offer prayers and vow to continue the investigation into the attack on the airliner (AP reports).

Zimbabwe fears Pretoria is backing rebels again

From Jan Raath, Harare

The Zimbabwe Government is concerned that recent evidence of guerrilla activities in the Matabeleland province may indicate a resumption of South African backing for guerrillas.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, the Minister of State for Security, said that two weeks ago security forces killed a guerrilla, one of a group of 40, with weapons and uniform of recent South African origin.

The evidence comes after a meeting in May at the highest level of contact yet between the Lieutenant General P. W. van Westhuizen, Chief of Staff under the supervision of the African defence forces, and Major General Sheba Gava, Chief of Staff of the Zimbabwe National Army.

Confirming the meeting, Mr Munangagwa said General van der Westhuizen had travelled to Harare as a civilian for the meeting. Previous meetings had been between brigadiers of the two forces, and have taken place at Beitbridge, the town on the Limpopo River, the common border.

Sources have said the South African general assured his Zimbabwean counterpart that infiltrations of guerrillas from South Africa were being discontinued, alongside South Africa's diplomatic initiatives in Mozambique and Angola.

Mr Munangagwa commented: "One of the things he said was to ask if there had been any infiltrations since February. The answer was no."

The minister said he did not meet General van der Westhuizen, but "I knew he was around".

He also confirmed recent reports that Zimbabwe had allowed a South African military convoy to travel from the Beitbridge border through Zimbabwe to the Forbes border post just outside the eastern city of Mutare whence it continued into Mozambique. The vehicles had contained only tents, he said.

Since February, the level of guerrilla activity all over the country has fallen off considerably and the curfew in Matabeleland South has been lifted.

Sources also said that the Fifth Brigade had been withdrawn for retraining operations, (information) in the South African military advisory training team, while the Presidential Guard, a unit of roughly brigade strength, was undergoing reorganization. Both units were initially trained by North Korean instructors, and have been named as being responsible for killings and assaults on civilians.

However, Mr Munangagwa said he was "disturbed" at the new evidence. The clash between guerrillas and security forces two weeks ago took place in the Shashi communal area on the Botswana border, and 45 miles from the junction of the borders of South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe.

The dead guerrilla had been wearing a new camouflage uniform and carrying a weapon with serial numbers similar to those of other captured and killed guerrillas. The Government maintains there is this distinct difference in weaponry between guerrillas infiltrating from South Africa, and those who operate from Botswana.

Austrian novel gets the chop

From Richard Bassett
Vienna

Thousands of copies of a novel by one of Austria's best-known authors were seized last night after an anonymous protest from someone recognizing himself as one of the book's principal characters.

Hof/Hilz (Woodcutting) by Thomas Bernhard attempts to chart the decline of the arts in Austria, comparing the country's artists to high-quality wood which is reduced to insignificant pulp by government bureaucracy and civil service conditions of employment.

The novel suggests that actors and musicians in Austria enjoy a security of tenure available in most countries only to civil servants. The results of this in the book are indifferent standards of performance and a lamentable waste of talent.

Although the names used in the book are fictitious, there are veiled references to Austrian institutions such as the once respected Vienna Burgtheater, which, as many Viennese insist even without the benefit of Herr Bernhard's book, is a mere shadow of its former self.

Regardless of the controversy surrounding the novel's theme, its seizure has fuelled fears in publishing circles that neutral Austria is prepared to adopt the censorship habits of its Warsaw Pact neighbours.

Indian opposition unites

From Kuldip Nayar
Delhi

Eight non-communist parties have agreed in principle to avoid a split in the opposition vote against Mrs Indira Gandhi's Congress (I) party in the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections.

The parties which include Janata, Lok Dal and Bharatiya Janata, are meeting on Wednesday to discuss preparations for a joint list of candidates. Their immediate attention is focused on Andhra Pradesh, where no date for the assembly session has been fixed and where 300 opposition volunteers were detailed yesterday after offering themselves for arrest.

Opposition leaders are holding a protest meeting in Bangalore today to be attended by the dismissed Chief Minister, Mr N. T. Rama Rao.

In Punjab the Government and the Akalis are heading for a showdown. Police yesterday surrounded the temple of Shabadan in Amritsar, the venue for the world Sikh convention called by the five Sikh high priests for tomorrow. Delhi, which has banned the meeting, has sealed practically all points of entry into the city.

CHILDREN IN JAIL: Forty children have been held in a Punjab jail for three months since the army stormed the Golden Temple of Amritsar. The Press Trust of India said (Reuters reports).

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Mulroney team in upbeat mood as Canada poll enters last round

From Trevor Fishlock, Toronto

Mr Brian Mulroney's aircraft roars off from Ottawa Airport for a day's campaigning in Toronto and the galloping sound of the William Tell Overture fills the cabin. It fits the upbeat mood of his people.

Mr Mulroney does not walk back to talk with reporters. He is not taking any chances since they reported embarrassing remarks he thought were off the record. In these final days of the election, with the polls looking so favourable and with Mr John Turner, the Prime Minister, on the ropes, there is no reason to risk unguarded words.

So he looks over the speech he is to make and Mila, his vivacious wife and an important member of his campaign team, goes back and chats.

Later she is by his side, smiling brightly and proudly as always, when he delivers his speech in his slow, deep voice.

He is proud of its velvety timbre: it is a voice for easy listening. He has cultivated it as part of a smooth, reassuring image to get him to the top.

At 45, Mr Mulroney is on the edge of achieving the leadership of Canada, an ambition he is said to have disclosed to a friend when he was 19. His ascent has not been through the usual political ranks. He had held no elective office at all when he became Conservative leader last year. He was elected an MP, for a Nova Scotia constituency, only a year ago.

It is significant that in this election he has switched constituencies and is running in Quebec, in the riding which contains his boyhood home of Baie-Comeau.

Quebec, a key province in federal elections, is a Liberal stronghold. In the last general election Liberals won 74 of the 75 seats. Now there are signs of a Conservative breakthrough.

Mr Mulroney is committed to breaking the Liberal grip on Quebec, just as Mr Turner is trying to establish a Liberal bridgehead by standing in the Tory heartland in Vancouver.

The difference is that Mr Turner is doing badly, while Mr Mulroney looks likely to win.



Mr Mulroney: Smooth image on way to top.

Mr Mulroney likes to talk of his relatively humble small-town origins as an electrician's son. He became a Tory as a youth, almost an eccentric thing to do in rural Quebec, and, while pursuing a career as a lawyer, worked as a party organizer and fund raiser, steadily building a political network.

When he failed to win the leadership in 1976 he went into business.

He has always been smart, confident, smooth and a sharp dresser. Indeed one of his image-advisers has warned him about appearing too smooth.

He has developed a broad appeal by refusing to be drawn on detail, making appropriate right-wing noises, being strongly pro-business. He has united Conservatives who were for many years a divided minority party. As a bilingual Quebecer, he has the sort of knowledge of French Canada that many Conservatives lack.

He has stood firm on French language rights, and sold this to the Tories, going a long way to healing destructive French-English suspicions in the party.

Calliper Bloomsbury

James MacDonald's new play *Calliper* has a compelling situation, the plight of the handicapped, as its springboard and a powerful issue, of how much physical disability can excuse, which should lift it into the realms of a *Whose Life Is It Anyway?* Sadly, it rarely gets off the ground.

The central character has the all too apt name of Edge. He chafes against everyone, the samaritans as much as the hostile. If we are to believe him, an operation has left him with the calliper of the title, no job and a massive chip on his shoulder. Actually, he has defrauded the insurance company for which he worked, and the dismemberment now saves him from judicial retribution.

His menacing, brutish and satirical character rebuffs any possibility of our sympathy. The early scenes of part-intolerance, part-condescension, in the attitudes of others go no way to explain his outlook on the world. That he manages to go on conning his way through suggests he should have a disarming charisma. As portrayed by John Hinton he is mostly unlovely and unlikeable.

On a bare stage, backed only by a multiplicity of door frames, with the actors sitting upstage in quasi-Brechtian fashion, we follow his progress from DHSS waiting room, through various sponging relationships to his final exposure by a television journalist. The only character remotely compassionate is the severely disabled and pitifully duped Alan. In this part, Stephen Tredre gives the most compelling and appealing performance of the evening.

For the most part the dialogue is desultory, the scenes follow one another with leaden regularity and the story - only towards the end does it become sufficiently organic to be deemed a plot - is a tawdry one.

It is not helped by the production from past and present students of Exeter Drama Department, which suffers from some severe directorial errors, such as actors unaccountably breaking the imagined bounds to address the odd few lines to the audience. Such a serious and sensitive theme deserves better treatment.

Robert Page

Starless, but sparkling brightly

The Playboy of the Western World

You would naturally hope for much from a United British Artists production directed by Lindsay Anderson and bringing good reports from Oxford and Edinburgh; but I never expected the like of this.

The cast may be starless by conventional standards; Di Seymour, whose costumes and rough-walled shaven almost speak Sygne's accents by themselves, is a rising star rather than a household name. Only Andy Phillips, who with Jeffrey Beckett has lit it so warmly and thoughtfully, is a celebrity from Royal Court days; and there is Mr Anderson himself as director. That is the key, of course.

However attentive and beguiling the cast's delivery of

Sygne's richly flavoured speech, there is an English coolness at work behind it all, pacing the comedy, keeping sentiment and grand gesture in check, and never losing sight of the waste in the circumscribed lives of these Mayo people. They speak like poets, naturally think of kings and saints in glory in every other phrase, and yet use their wit in taproom talk or efforts to snare a spouse with a little status-bringing land, a few cows or a right-of-way.

So Frank Grimes' Christy, engaging and only a bit too self-consciously so, needs little glamour to win hearts in a village with so few possibilities: only some decent looks and a parricide's mystique. Hence the mud-spattered fugitive, a "little smiling fellow" bobbing to strangers in servile fashion, is inspired to tremendous feats as a jockey and genuinely fills a hero's role. And finds himself losing it, a trick which (though Sygne does not say so) is just as

ironic in bigger market-places when men are admired, according to others' fantasies, for what they did accidentally, what they should not be admired for, or what they may never have done at all.

His Pegen Mike, Carolyn Pickles, is very young, no leading lady doing a shrew turn but a tough, tousled country beauty. She could, quite credibly, have set her sights no higher than the richly-kept weed Shawn Keogh, whom Kevin Lloyd makes convincing down to the last cringe.

Even the Widow Quin is the right age, and what aggressive sexual claims she makes in Nicholas McAuliffe's performance - regally sailing in bewhiskered like the Carmen of County Mayo before marshalling her loyal cohorts with a smiling imperiousness that would have made even Miss Jean Brodie quail.

Gray's *Elegy* imagines a village with its unused Milton

and Cromwell; and look at the raw material they have to work in here. There is Ronie Walsh as Pegen's ruddy and mountainous father, returning legless from a wake, and his cronies Denis Carey, a dour wisecracker in a melancholy hat, and Derry Power, a little crab-apple of a porter-soaked wit colliding with the door-frame in his haste to see Christy pass the winning post. And after the day of glory, they (and Pegen with Shawn) settle down, as Henry James said, "for life, as it were".

Above this sombre truth the dialogue dances as sprightly as it should, and such farcical episodes as the supposedly murdered da's double return from the dead with anger undiminished fill the theatre with laughter. It is Sygne's *Playboy*, pretty well complete; and not to be missed on any excuse at all.

Anthony Masters

Gallery

Folk Art of Romania Horniman Museum

It is not always easy to see fol art with an unjaundiced eye with the emphasis on the "art" rather than the "folk", which always tends to have improv ethnographic overtones. Not, of course, that many people necessarily mind seeing it in more or less scientific light, and it is an important part of the Horniman Museum's job to cater to precisely such interests. But it is always pleasing to record an exhibition which cat happily be taken both ways. Such a one is that devoted, until January 13, to the *Folk Art of Romania*.

It arises, in fact, from a long and happy connexion between the museum and the country. Back in 1957 there was a previous exhibition of Romanian Folk Art, and all the pieces shown were generously donated to the museum, giving it a remarkable collection of costumes, machines and artifacts. Many of these have been in the reserve collection accessible to students if not on show. But now a lot of splendid examples have been got out, spanning fresh, combined with many other loans from the Village and Folk Art Museum, Bucharest. If anything there has been an embarrassment of riches.

The costumes and examples of weaving, embroidery and textile design are among the most irresistibly colourful works present, and seen by the right people, the intricately, elegantly frogged jackets for men and dresses for women could start a new craze. There are also some admirable simple pots - particularly fetching is a group of dark grey earthenware with designs rubbed rather than scratched into the matt surface - and some really beautiful examples of peasant woodcarving which indicate very clearly where Brancusi began as a sculptor.

An extra dimension is given to the show by the selection of historic photographs of peasant life, showing the clothes actually worn, the utensils actually used, for all the beauty of the things considered in a vacuum, there is undoubtedly an added strength in the feeling that this is a living culture which many Romanian artists today are still in touch with. Nothing here, anywhere, is merely quaint.

John Russell Tay'or

Decision on Honecker visit near

From Our Correspondent Bonn

Chancellor Kohl said yesterday that he expected a final decision from Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, on his visit to West Germany, in the next few days.

Talks between the two Germans about the visit were well advanced, but Herr Honecker's decision was still awaited. Asked if the apparent indecision was due to reports that President Chernenko was ill, Dr Kohl said: "I do not know exactly what is going on in the Kremlin. I do not know anyone who does know."

Herr Kohl said Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, would have talks with Mr Andrei Gromyko, his Soviet counterpart, in New York on September 25 during a meeting of the United Nations General Assembly.

Greece tells US to mend ways

From Mario Mediano Athens

Greece has warned the United States that it could make life difficult for Americans at their military bases unless they mend their ways towards their Greek employees.

About 200 workers staged a protest march to the US Embassy on Thursday night, after lay-offs at Hellenikon air base, near Athens international airport.

Earlier, Mr Yiannis Kapsis, the Foreign Under-Secretary, had lodged a strong protest to the American charge d'affaires, Mr Alan Berlind, and requested that the dismissals be rescinded.

An official Greek press release later said the minister had drawn Mr Berlind's attention to "all the possible consequences in case the present situation were allowed to continue".

23 Filipino soldiers face murder court martial

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Two officers and 21 soldiers are to be court-martialled in connexion with the election day murder last May of nine farmers who witnesses say were arrested, tortured and later killed by constabulary soldiers in the central Philippines town of Langoni.

Lieutenant-General Fidel Ramos, chief of the Philippines constabulary, said yesterday there would be no cover-up.

A preliminary investigation began early last month after a public outcry against the killings, which Bishop Antonio Forch of Negros island condemned as a massacre.

Langoni residents said soldiers took 11 men from a bus and made them march half-naked to a military camp where a volley of shots was later heard. The next day soldiers turned over to

relatives the bodies of nine men, all in their early 20s, claiming that they had been killed in a counter-insurgency operation.

Two of those arrested had escaped. Several weeks after the killings all 11 had been charged with an earlier massacre.

● **FREEDOM DAY:** A Filipino journalist, Mr Satur Ocampo, aged 45, who has been imprisoned in an army camp since 1976, won a day's freedom yesterday to join newspaper colleagues in the first celebration of Philippine Press Freedom Day (AP report).

Mr Ocampo, formerly business editor of the *Manila Times*, which was closed under martial law in 1972, is charged with rebellion and subversion as an alleged officer of the outlawed Communist Party.

Hijacked Iranians see the sights of Baghdad

Manama (AFP) - No solution was in sight yesterday for the 206 people on board the Air Iran aircraft hijacked on Tuesday to Iraq, where the two hijackers have asked for asylum.

The Airbus was still on Baghdad airport runway, while the 195 passengers and 11 crew were taken sightseeing.

Iraqi authorities have said the 206 are all Iranians and are being treated as guests of Iraq, although the two countries have been at war for nearly four years.

On Thursday, the passengers were taken to see Shia holy villages.

Immediately after the hijack, Tehran called on the UN to ensure a swift return of the passengers and the jet. Yesterday the UN had not been in touch with Baghdad.

● **TEHRAN:** President Ali Khamenei of Iran yesterday gave Kuwait an implicit warning over what his country sees as collusion in the hijack (Reuters report).

"We are considering seriously the actions which we suspect have been done by some neighbouring states in the hijacking and we are investigating," he told a prayer meeting.

Business as usual: no fewer than five "new series" last night on ITV, two of them dramas from London Weekend.

Me and My girl means Richard O'Sullivan and Joanne Ridley, he full of wry and roguish self-deprecation, she both innocent and knowing, and with a provocative aquiline. He carefully fails to conceal the fact that he has another girl (a hot property from Monte Carlo); she has no eyes for anyone else. When they sit facing each other on her bed the marital vibes are intense. He is a widower of 40; she his 13-year-old daughter.

Richard O'Sullivan works in an agency called Eycatchers with Tim Brooke-Taylor; his mother-in-law holds the money bags and cracks most of the jokes, which have the studio

audience in convulsions. She is a practised hand with the vocabulary, safety aside, but Tim, Richard and Joanne are coming along fine. There is a Glaswegian au pair (Lena Harper) who over-acts heroically. There is a radiator in the office which ticks chirpily away until silenced by a gentle kick from its owner: a not inappropriately faint, some viewers might feel, for the programme itself.

Due to a little local misunderstanding I was initially shown one of the later stories in *Mitch* ("John Thaw in..."). It seemed a competently produced little tale (British businessman asphyxiated in mysterious circumstances abroad) though it did not seem to have an ending.

Embarking on last night's story, *Something Private*, I

found myself jotting down a much more favourable verdict (crisp dialogue, sharp cutting, smooth direction) until - blow me down if this one did not have an ending either (boy of ten asphyxiated in mysterious circumstances in the Cotswolds). There was a conclusion of sorts: the prime suspect hanged himself in his prison cell.

The very least one expects of a 52-minute mystery story, especially when it is tricked out with elaborately conflicting clues, is a mild surprise at its resolution. Never mind, John Thaw was well on form as a crime hack who believes in his job and the supporting cast were as convincingly real as the slush on their village street.

Michael Church

Television

Radio

Travelling eccentrics

I enjoy radio's eccentric travellers - Ray Gosling, plangently astonished at the perverties around him; Tom Vernon pedalling along Roman roads or up the Massif Central, finding different sorts of curiosities, or at least a different, more expensive way of looking at them. So I wish there were a bit more eccentricity in prospect in *Down the Severn* (Radio 4, producer, Anthony Smith) which is currently standing in on Sundays and Mondays for the "resting" *Down Your Way*, but presenter Tom Salmon sounds as if he is going to play it straight all the way from source to estuary.

Happily last Sunday brought a new and rather endearingly low-key recruit to the ranks of the travelling eccentrics, although I suspect that Richard Pater of Mr Wesley's Calderdale (Radio 4, producer, Roger Hutchings) may not be intending to pursue his career amongst them. He is already set up in Kendal as an insurance statistician and Methodist preacher and it was as an extension of the latter that he mounted his horse, Hercules, last May to retrace some of John Wesley's preaching journeys in the Calder Valley of West Yorkshire.

Like Wesley, he too went to preach the word, but this was an enterprise in which the only thing to arouse the people he visited was the spectacle of a solid, friendly man in the costume and hair style of the 1730s-riding a solid, friendly horse. (Gone are the conditions in which what Wesley said will ever again provoke hostility, much less a well-aimed clod of earth.)

And with all respects to Mr Pater's sincerity and inventiveness, there was little evidence of that power to move his

audience profoundly which Wesley is said to have possessed.

"I didn't want to let him down," said Mr Pater, which was a heart-warming thing to say, but it added to the impression given by an initial, revealing bilingual-stereo production that this event was primarily a curiosity, a peripatetic museum from which, as is the tendency, the original spirit of the exhibit had departed. As if to echo this, Mr Pater went on to muse on the failure of the contemporary Methodist message to strike home.

Was there a hint perhaps of this same hollowness perceptible to those who originally took part in *The Princely Pleasures at Kenilworth* (Radio 4, August 26, director, Margaret Windham) which Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, presented at grotesque expense to Queen Elizabeth I in July 1575?

Certainly by half way through the proceedings the Queen had been heard to express a very firm preference for fewer re-enactments of antiquity in the form of plays and masques and for more time in the Earl's exquisite private garden.

Derek Wilson's recreation of those 18 days of a sixteenth century summer evoked at once the splendour and the emptiness of the occasion and made us aware of its significance both to the principal guest and her host. A gambit in Dudley's courtship of the Queen?

No, more likely a plea for his release from a suit which both parties knew to be hopeless and permission to pursue the most necessary objective of securing his own succession. All this was conveyed in the words of onlookers - courtiers, ladies-in-waiting, stewards, servants and it was rather successfully done:

BBCPO/Downes

Albert Hall/Radio 3

The devil does not have all the best tunes; many of them belong to his accomplice, Death. And Thursday night's Prom was full of them. Irina Arkhipova was there - to chant Mussorgsky's *Songs and Dances of Death* in the Shostakovich orchestration and then there was *Francesca da Rimini*. Tchaikovsky's love song heard powerfully here out of the furnace of hellfire. Even the new piece, Brian Elias's *L'Eylah*, was all about shuffling off the mortal coil and couched in terms hardly less stark and savage than those of the Russians.

Nothing in Elias's previous output nor anything in his

Promenade Concert

programme note quite prepared me for this. The note revealed that the title-meaning "to transcend" comes from the Kaddish which Elias leads less a prayer for the dead than a promise from the living. In the same way he would see his own work as "an affirmation of things that endure, a sanctification of life."

I have to say I did not hear it that way. Certainly the main body of the music has a frantic rhythmic energy, but it seemed more raging than celebratory. There are incisive figures that tear up through the orchestra, leonine repetitions of strident chords stamped out by brass or high woodwind, moments when the whole orchestra crashes like a giant bell.

The nearest parallel for all this strenuously directed noise and fury are in Vartse, whose

music was particularly called to mind by the repetitive motive and by the blistering prominence of E Flat clarinet and trumpet at the top of their range and beyond.

However there is much that belonged to Elias alone, like the liberal decoration that is in so unstable a balance with the hectic drive or the placing of slower sections not as periods of rest but rather as passages of tight screwed tension before renewed attack. That effect is produced because the slow music so plainly echoes the fast.

It is encouraging to find a composer unafraid of big gestures and occasional crudity: Elias was well rewarded by a performance of enormous bite from the BBC Philharmonic under Edward Downes.

Paul Griffiths

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David Wade

SPORTING DIARY

Rex Bellamy

Running flush

New York. The BBC, dear old Auntie, has flown commentators to New York for the longest televised tennis tournament since Wimbledon. Dan Maskell, dear old Uncle, leads a team completed by three possible successors: John Barrett (the favourite), Gerald Williams and Mark Cox.

Nobody talks about Maskell's argument. By common consent the subject is banned - or was, until this slum broke through the mists of secrecy. He can probably go on as long as he wants to, unless silenced by a terminal laryngitis. Maskell is 76 and has been the voice of Wimbledon since 1951, but still bubbles with enthusiasm and has an insatiable appetite for work.

Barrett and Cox, ex-players, are tennis experts. Williams, the newsman and interviewer, All are ex-polite to be anything but embarrassed by talk of a deMasell Wimbledon. Meantime Tony Adamson, with his engagingly conversational manner, has taken over the radio job vacated by Williams.

Back home, you will have a better view of the tennis than the BBC team or the rest of us on the spot. Reporters are allocated to specific courts: a left side (or 139 steps) and more than 80ft above the main court. Refreshments available at the summit include beer brewed in Tokyo.

The Times has conducted an international referendum on press facilities at the major championships. The French won easily, with Wimbledon and the US level in second place. Flushing Meadow

Reporters scurry around Manhattan for phones

came third in the communications category, possibly because of this year's telephoning arrangements. Free enterprise has run riot. The company which formerly provided private lines and telephones has been shattered into a chaos of separate concerns.

Now the lines come from one source, the telephones from a variety of others. Reporters have been scurrying about Manhattan to buy or rent telephones which they connect to the lines for the day's work. Then the telephones are packed away for safekeeping. In New York only the rich or the foolish leave saleable items lying around.

Most of the European tennis set, players and camp-followers alike, come here to pay the bills for all the nice things that happen to them elsewhere. Manhattan is a hard place. There are, mind you, psychological cushions to fall on: notably the New Yorkers themselves, the jazz clubs and the culinary diversity of the restaurants.

In comfortable terms (and much else) of the Big Apple. Take a few samples from the "food village" at the tournament: an egg plant and mushroom sandwich is on offer at £2.50; chicken or beef tacos with lettuce, jack cheese (Jack who?), sour cream and salsa at £3.65 and a bagel "smothered" with cream cheese and topped with smoked salmon and sliced onion at £6.10.

The other day I caught two once-prominent players refuelling. Tom Okker ("This place is a zoo") was standing in line at a stall offering seven varieties of "hand-dipped" ice cream. Hand-dipped? And that sophisticated Frenchman, Pierre Darmon, was heavily disguised behind a half-pound charcoal-broiled hamburger with lettuce and tomato, selling at £3.80. "They are expensive," Darmon said, briefly disengaging his teeth. "But really good."

Today's players cannot risk the belching waistlines prevalent among spectators. The Women's Tennis Association has produced a 1985 calendar tastefully embellished by photographs of 15 svelte lovelies (all well-known players) in everything from evening gowns to bathing suits. At one time, women's tennis did not have an overtly feminine image. That has changed.

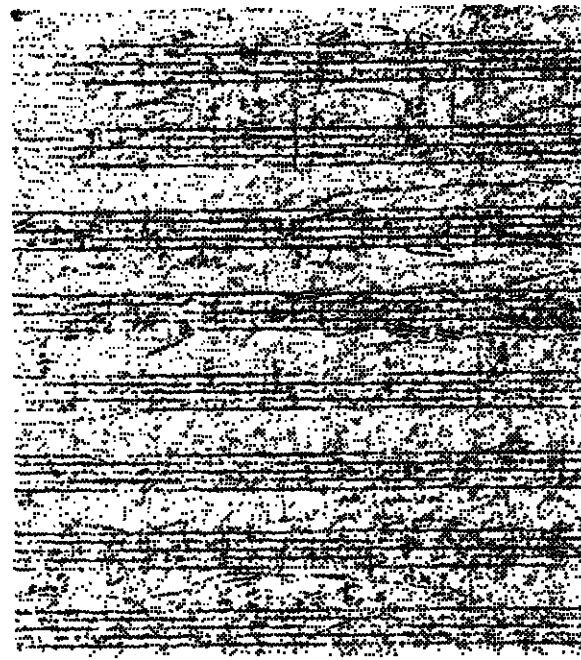
The calendar's cover-girl is Chris Evert, who has been around for a while. Known how to pose and suggestively insistent on addressing your correspondent as "Sexy Rexy". But the rest of the chorus line are mostly youngsters, and every one of them enjoys being a dame. At £7.75 the calendar is a hot number on the souvenir stalls. Dan Maskell ("Oh, I say") has never seen the like of it.

BARRY FANTONI



Gerald believes it's an important surrealist statement.

Peter Lennon on the discovery of a composition by Richard Strauss, unpublished and unperformed, believed lost for nearly 50 years



Maria Jeriza as Ariadne, Richard Strauss, and the music written as a tribute to their friendship

Strauss's fifth last song

A casual conversation at dinner between the young British composer Richard Blackford and the head of the manuscript department of Sotheby's, New York, has led to the discovery of Richard Strauss's last composition: a song unpublished, never performed, and unseen by the Strauss family for nearly 50 years. It was presumed lost.

The song, "Malven", was composed by Strauss at the age of 84, 11 months before his death in 1949, and was sent as a gift to the Czech soprano Maria Jeriza, who created the part of Ariadne in *Ariadne auf Naxos* in 1912, and was a celebrated Salome early in the century.

This major musical discovery will go on sale at Sotheby's in New York in December.

Blackford, had done research in Strauss's Garmisch villa in Bavaria for the BBC documentary *Richard Strauss Remembered*, shown last January. He was telling David Redden of Sotheby's about his conversations with Strauss's daughter-in-law and long-time secretary, Alice Strauss. She told of a song her father-in-law had completed on November 23, 1948, during a stay in Montreux, Switzerland. The original had been sent to the soprano Maria Jeriza in New York, who had never complied with Strauss's request to send back a photocopy.

The only trace of this song, based on a nature poem by an obscure Swiss poet, Betty Knobel, was an unfinished sketch listed in the Strauss catalogue as "Fragment 304".

The effect of this anecdote on Redden was electrifying. By coincidence, Sotheby's had just been given instructions to auction the estate of Jeriza, who died in New York last December, aged 96 and leaving no heirs. A hasty examination of her papers led to the discovery of "Malven", a song for soprano and piano accompaniment.

"Superb for the voice," Blackford says. "Typical of the late period of Strauss writing. Sensuous, with that autumnal feel. But it is in a sprightly 2/4 Allegretto in E-flat major. It definitely does not belong to the set known as *Four Last Songs*, the fifth of which was never completed."

But the song has still not been

performed: Sotheby's allowed Blackford only 10 minutes sight of the manuscript.

However, there is another dimension to this discovery to which Strauss's correspondence with Jeriza, also found among the soprano's effects, bears poignant witness. The song was composed in a room in the Palace Hotel, Montreux, where Strauss, his assets and royalties frozen by a denazification board, was living in, for him, straitened circumstances. In fact he was a multi-millionaire. The palatial Garmisch villa contained priceless paintings and musical manuscripts. But for ready cash Strauss was driven to copying his manuscripts of *Rosenkavalier* waltzes, *Don Juan* and *Till Eulenspiegel* and sending them to Jeriza to sell for him in New York.

Although it has never been supposed that there was a sexual relationship between the composer, a faithful family man, and his favourite soprano, 23 his junior, this correspondence at times strikes an uncharacteristically tender note.

"Ardently loved and greatly admired Maria," the composer wrote. "I lay my fate in your beautiful hands and know you will do your utmost to help restore to me the property and income that has been impounded for the last ten (sic) years."

In fact it was only at the end of the war that his assets were impounded, by the Americans. The song was a gift to Jeriza in gratitude for her efforts on his behalf.

Strauss's cooperation with the Nazis is still today a much debated issue. While there was never any question of his helping them politically, when most of the great creative talent fled Hitler's Germany, he stayed on and accepted, "passively, without being consulted" - his biographer, Norman Del Mar, tells us - the post of president of the Reichsmusikkammer.

When, in 1933, Bruno Walter refused to conduct a concert, Strauss stepped in, and he wrote the Olympic Hymn for the 1936 Berlin Games.

But when, in 1934, the name of his Jewish librettist, Stefan Zweig,

was removed from *Die schweigende Frau*, Strauss publicly protested. After the second performance the opera was banned simply because of Zweig's involvement. A short time later two high-ranking Nazis went to Strauss's home and demanded that he resign as president of the Reichsmusikkammer.

It was at this point that Strauss wrote a notorious letter to Hitler (quoted by Del Mar). Addressed to "Mein Fuhrer", it read: "My whole life belongs to German music and to an indefatigable effort to elevate German culture. Therefore I believe that I will find understanding from you, the great architect of German social life, particularly when, with deep emotion and with deep respect, I assure you that even after my dismissal as president of the Reichsmusikkammer I will devote the few years still granted to me only to the purest and most ideal goals."

However Del Mar frequently refers to Strauss's low opinion of the Nazis, and both his and his wife Pauline's lack of tact in dealing with them. Indeed, Nazi disapproval caused him to leave Garmisch, where he had lived since 1908, and move to Vienna, where he spent the war years sheltered by the Gauleiter Baldur von Schirach, Nazi controller of Vienna.

Dr Ernst Roth is quoted in Del Mar's definitive biography as passing his judgment: "Strauss's complete detachment from all political and national affairs was truly monumental. Opinion never went so far as actually to attribute to him sympathies with the Nazi movement, but a culpable opportunism was found in his behaviour."

But Strauss had a very real reason for accepting von Schirach's protection. His daughter-in-law, Alice, is Jewish, and astonishingly she lived with him throughout the war years, working as his secretary. It was partly to protect her and his half-Jewish grandchildren, Richard and Christian, that he accepted such hospitality.

Already reviled in the 1930s by Thomas Mann (who had fled to Switzerland) for remaining in Hitler's Germany, at the end of the war Strauss had some explaining to do.

The correspondence uncovered in New York reveals that Strauss blamed most of the public opprobrium heaped on him in the immediate post-war years to Mann's son, Klaus.

Towards the end of the war, Klaus Mann, using the name "Mr Brown" and posing as a reporter for *The Stars and Stripes*, visited Strauss at Garmisch. In a letter to Jeriza on September 30, 1948, on behalf of his father, Franz Strauss wrote: "The name of Richard Strauss is not very popular just now, and the reasons are different interpretations of facts, especially the polemic of Klaus Mann who in August 1944 without declaring his name smuggled himself as a reporter here into the house. Papa gave him truthful information, all in good faith, which he then malevolently distorted."

Franz reported that the press was "very positive in London" (Sir Thomas Beecham had persuaded Strauss to conduct a highly successful concert in London two years previously). "However," he says, "in the US they are against him. The actor Lionel Barrymore had invited Strauss to visit the US, but because of this public hostility and his failing health Strauss decided against."

Later, Strauss was cleared by the denazification board and his assets were unblocked. But in 1948, a time of uncertainty, distress and ill health, he composed "Malven" - in gratitude to a faithful ally.

"Before I go off on my recuperation trip to the clinic," he wrote to Jeriza. "I have prepared the enclosed little song for you." He dedicated it: "To Beloved Maria, this last rose."

Now, 36 years later, both dead, a yet unchosen soprano will soon have the honour of singing Strauss's truly last composition:

"Aus Rosen, Pfaffen Zinienflor
ragen im Garten Malven empor,
Duftlos und ohne des Purpurs Glut,
wie ein verwelkter blasses Gesicht."
(Among roses, stocks and zinnias
in the garden, mallows are towering
useless and without the glow of the
purple
like a tear-stained pale face.)

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Alfred Sherman

Why we asked the unasked questions

In the moment of my departure, I would like to attempt to explain the rationale of the Centre for Policy Studies. From the outset, I conceived it as an outsider. Although the centre is frequently referred to as a Tory think-tank, we assigned ourselves a more active role, to undertake the reshaping of the climate of opinion nationally, in order to widen the range of options open to a Conservative government which dared take them. In its turn, we estimated that this climate would evoke a bolder response from the party.

My thesis was that no Conservative government or opposition, however courageous and adventurous, could afford to take the lead in rooting new policies rooted in critical appraisal of the post-war settlement. The moment the critique, which must of necessity precede the enunciation of policy, is presented, it provokes a chorus of anathema from "thought guardians" in political life and media for whom early post-war thinking remains the final revelation. The British are a conservative people, but none more so than progressives in thrall to yesterday's last word.

Young shoots of new thinking are not strong enough to stand the hot blast of denunciation. Temporarily run for cover on the grounds that "public is not yet ready for such radical thinking". Yet - I argued - unless the new ideas are fed in somehow or other, the public never will be ready, and the post-war settlement will go on rotting on its own momentum until it crushes us all. This dilemma was not invented by the temporisers: their fault lay in reconciling themselves to the constraint rather than rising to it as a challenge.

To resolve the dilemma, I argued for some privatisation of Conservative politics, with fringe organizations, "outsiders", who would not commit the leadership, as they breached the waves of denunciation by the guardians. Insofar as we won preliminary skirmishes of ideas, the leadership could move on to the new ground.

Some of the drama of the change of Conservative leadership rubbed off on us. In politics, appearances are part of reality. Our standing with Margaret Thatcher helped attract supporters and participants. We became the venue for exchanges of ideas between Conservative politicians, intellectuals, journalists, businessmen, and a few trade unionists. Not all of us were of the right, however defined. Not all were Conservative party members, or voters. A few were members or associates of the Labour or Liberal parties.

My participation in speech-writing counted for more than this craft does as a rule, because of Mrs Thatcher's particular *modus operandi*. As a result of the circumstances

in which she had won the leadership, the consolidation of her power over the party *parti passu* with a change in direction was bound to be a lengthy process. She therefore tended during the early years of her leadership to moot policy through public speeches and interviews more than political leaders generally would do.

Electoral victory in 1979 brought about a new phase in our life-cycle. On the one hand, we were in a position to feed in second opinions, while remaining free to act as a clearing house for ideas and participate in the public debate. On the other hand, we found ourselves engaged, willy nilly, in an unequal relationship with the departmental civil servants. They are able to criticize, in private sessions with ministers, the views of the outsider, who cannot as of right ask to be apprised of their arguments and data, which enjoy the shield of confidentiality, in order to respond to them.

An organization which has access to party and government leadership and yet earns its bread by thinking the unthinkable and questioning the unquestioned must live on narrow margins. Without its connections, real or apparent, it would be only real or apparent voice on the fringes of political life. Let it be too closely identified with the leadership, or the leadership with the privateer, and pressures will grow to curb his incursions. Yet let its intellectual integrity be compromised by a hairsbreadth, and its wider public acceptability would evaporate overnight.

Over the 10 years, it seems to me that our successes well outweighed the frustrations inherent in our chosen role.

I shall leave the assessment to others. I can never be sure how far I helped make the waves or just floated on a turning tide created by deeper forces which shape the life of nations. But whether or not we made the tide, we rode high on it.

If people felt compelled to present me as an amalgam of Pere Joseph, Svengali and the Elders of Zion, they are at liberty to do so, and those who know me will think them fools. But this carping takes them no further towards explaining why a handful of people whom they disparage could make a wholly disproportionate impact on the political scene, for better or worse.

Our work in the realm of political and economic ideas may have counted less than our part in generating in the Conservative Party a sense of intellectual excitement which had hitherto been largely a monopoly of the left. No one calls the Conservatives the stupid party any longer; at worst, they accuse it of indulging in ideology.

Sir Alfred Sherman worked for the Centre for Policy Studies from its foundation in 1974 until yesterday.

Keith Waterhouse

Thoughts of the great unwritten

The generality of readers being reluctant to accept that the essence of fiction is that it is made up, novelists are constantly being asked on whom this or that character is based.

In my own case, because most of my novels are effectively in the first person, even when written in the third, in that everything is seen through the eyes of the hero, I'm more usually asked if my characters are based on myself. Little ice does it cut when I protest that if they were, I should be locked up in Broadmoor by now.

I have to admit, however, that there is one facet of Edgar Samuel Bapty, the irascible hero of my new novel *Thinks*, that has been lifted straight from the private life of his creator. Bapty writes letters to *The Times* in his head. So do I. So, I shouldn't be in the least surprised to hear, do you.

Only a fraction of letters to *The Times* gets printed: that's common knowledge. What is probably not so generally realized is that only a fraction of that fraction ever gets written.

You see otherwise normal and respectable persons sitting in railway carriages with their lips moving convulsively. They are writing letters to *The Times*. Soberly dressed pedestrians are to be observed bobbing their heads and twitching their arms like marionettes, only one removed from those unfortunate who stand in the middle of the road directing traffic. Do not be alarmed. They are only writing to *The Times*.

It is not that they do not happen to have writing materials to hand. Even as you read these words, there are thousands scanning the page opposite over the breakfast egg who will be reaching mentally for their pens to draft a scathing reply to this or that letter. They could just as well reach physically for their pens and pop it in the post on the way to the office, but that is not their way: the embossed notepaper of the Old Rectory, in their case, will remain forever virgin of that declamatory "Sir". They belong to the silent army of cerebral correspondents to *The Times*.

The letter that never is comes, from my observation, in two forms. The first encapsulates the "I've a damn good mind to write to *The Times* about it" *Punch* cartoon colonel who lurks inside us all, trying to get out. Something vexes us - a sloppily dressed railway guard, a shop assistant who can't add up, a public clock yet to catch up with British Summer Time - and we

channel our indignation into a sardonic letter to the Editor concocted on the hoof. Usually it tails off around the second paragraph, the desire to express oneself in pungent phrases dying as annoyance fades. It would have to have been an irritation of epic proportions to sustain us through a blistering hundred words of so to "I am, Sir, yours etc etc".

The second form is the letter that never is at its purest. It too is never finished, but only in the sense that the job of painting the Forth Bridge is never finished. It is revised and reworked all through the day, often over several days, sometimes over the course of weeks, months or even years. It concerns, as likely as not, a particular bee in the bonnet (I have one on decimal currency which I have been drafting since 1970).

But the subject is neither here nor there: it is the object that matters, and the object is to get the thing right, to hone and polish until it becomes the perfect letter to *The Times*, as much an example of the epistolary form as Lord Chesterfield's letters to his son.

Unlike the indignant fragment ("Sir: If this indeed is the age of the train...") induced by some passing irritation, the Mark II letter is seriously drafted, set down and submitted for publication. But the intention is always thwarted in the search for perfection.

I remember, in the course of some education controversy or other, coming across a letter to *The Times* from Kingsley Amis, one of those fellows who actually writes things down instead of sitting around thinking about them. His retort was to the effect that what he'd really said was "More will mean worse", which was not to be taken as meaning the same as "More means worse". I was on the tube at the time. Fellow passengers began to edge away as, with the aid of gesticulating fingers, I set out to prove that Amis didn't understand his own aphorism. Unfortunately, by the time I'd marshalled my argument and reduced it to a glittering aphorism of my own, a week and a half had passed and I had missed the boat.

That, perhaps, is subconsciously the idea, just as it is sometimes better to travel hopefully than to arrive, for some temperaments it is better to think about writing to *The Times* than actually to do it. Procrastination it may be, but look what we save on postage.

Thanks by Keith Waterhouse will be published on Monday, September 3 by Michael Joseph, £8.95

Richard Owen returns to the scene of a fateful postwar meeting

Yalta: still waiting for the thaw

Yalta, Soviet Crimea. Ronald Reagan's little joke about bombing the Russians is still reverberating in Yalta, as elsewhere in the Soviet Union. But his remarks about the 1945 Yalta conference and not accepting the "permanent subjugation of Eastern Europe" also arouse powerful echoes, especially at a time when Moscow is at loggerheads with two of its East European allies, Romania and East Germany.

"You see," said one Yalta resident, standing on the lawn outside the Livadia Palace where the 1945 conference took place, "it just goes to show what Reagan is after - he wants to destroy the Soviet system and bring down the entire socialist community as well."

The white palace at Livadia, just along the coast from Yalta on the Black Sea, is certainly a good place to reflect on the course of history since the conference there. In the space of one week, the "Big Three" sealed the fate of post-war Europe as the end of the Nazi Reich approached and Soviet troops reached the gates of Berlin.

An oil painting inside the palace captures the scene: Stalin in his marshal's uniform, cigarette in hand; Churchill, opposite, grasping the arm of his chair to glare round, bulky and bulldogish; and Roosevelt in the middle, emaciated and bespectacled, not far from death. At their elbows Molotov, Eden, Stettinius - and standing up, a piece of paper in his hand, the tall and youthful figure of Andrei Gromyko.

More than 2,000 attended the conference, if you include aides, journalists and observers. But the shape of the post-war world was decided by three men, in the long, airy conference room (formerly used for balls) and in the courtyard outside. Stalin agreed to help in the war against Japan, and to join in establishing the United Nations. But the heart of the matter was Eastern Europe, and especially Poland.

The boundaries were drawn at the Curzon-Lines in the East and the Oder-Neisse Line in the West. A "declaration on liberated Europe" (the three scrawled signatures can be seen at Livadia) affirmed the need



Postwar accord: Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin at Yalta

for "democratic institutions" in territories formerly under Nazi occupation, and Stalin agreed to "free elections" in Poland.

Forty years on, with Solidarity still a fresh and worrying memory for the Russians in Poland, and with Erich Honecker, the East German leader, about to make a trip to West Germany against Soviet wishes, Yalta is again headline news rather than the stuff of faded documents. President Reagan stirred controversy this month by saying at a White House lunch commemorating the fortieth anniversary of the Warsaw uprising that the United States "rejects any interpretation of the Yalta agreement which suggests American consent for the division of Europe into spheres of influence."

There was no reason to "absolve" the Soviet Union from its commitment at Yalta to independence and democracy in Eastern Europe. This approach, subsequently echoed by George Shultz, the Secretary of State, has been seen by some as a vindication of President

Roosevelt, who in the years following Yalta was accused of having brought Russia into the Far East and "sold out" Eastern Europe to Stalin. The Reagan interpretation, by contrast, would seem to be that Roosevelt and Churchill rightly bound Stalin to the idea of free elections, but that Soviet duplicity and the presence of the Red Army in Eastern Europe led to the betrayal of Yalta and the division of Europe into spheres of influence, with the resulting borders sanctified at the Helsinki conference of 1975.

The corollary of that is that as the captive populations of Eastern Europe grow restive, the question of Yalta is still open.

Few Russians, most of whom regard the communist monopoly of power, the Warsaw Pact and Comecon as eternal and immutable, would take this seriously for a moment. The Soviet press none the less constantly harps on the alleged desire of both Bonn and Washington to "alter the agreed post-war frontiers" (known in the case of

West Germany as *revanchism*) and undermine communism in the Eastern bloc.

The Kremlin view, reiterated by Soviet historians and commentators, is that the current revival of the 1950s policy of "rolling back communism" began with a speech in Vienna last September by US Vice-President George Bush after his visits to Hungary and Romania.

Bush, one *Izvestiya* columnist said, had questioned post-war "realities" and was obviously nostalgic for Eastern Europe's pre-war "bourgeois regimes". He and Reagan obviously regretted that, for example, Soviet rather than American troops had entered Prague in 1945.

At Livadia, where the 1945 conference room is being carefully redecorated to measure up to the splendour of the Tsar's study and billiard room next door, official guides underline this by claiming - without batting an eyelid - that the Soviet Union has scrupulously observed the Yalta undertaking to allow each formerly occupied nation to "choose the form of government it preferred".

The guides also express regret that President Roosevelt's hope, spoken in the billiard room at the end of the conference, that allied wartime unity would continue in peacetime has been disappointed.

Down the corridor a photographic exhibition drives home the Moscow line that it was Soviet force of arms that largely dictated events, with pictures of Russian troops entering Berlin, Bucharest, Belgrade, Prague and Warsaw. For Russian visitors, the photographs are a reminder that the Soviet Union made untold sacrifices to rid Europe of Nazism, and that the peoples of Eastern Europe have cause to be grateful to Russia for liberating them and bringing them proletarian, socialist regimes rather than the "restoration of the old order" that Churchill wanted.

It is this profoundly ingrained view, which still dominates the outlook of Mr Gromyko, now 75, and other members of the Kremlin old guard, and it is unlikely to change.

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WHAT DR OWEN THINKS

Like the stimulating chill in the air which will presage the coming of autumn, the flow of the new political year's literature has now begun, heralding the party conference season. The first author in the field this year is the Social Democratic leader, Dr David Owen, not with a pamphlet but with a compendious book, based on his speeches and articles during the past year, entitled: "A Future that Will Work..." (Viking hardback £12.95; Penguin paperback £2.95). The future he has in mind is one moulded by Social Democratic principles and specifically by his own interpretation of them. What Dr Owen thinks is certainly not synonymous with the thoughts of his colleagues but what he has to say deserves careful scrutiny because if anyone can give political force to the SDP it will be Dr Owen.

The first essay in his book is the key to his approach. Its subject is the Social Market, a concept and a term to which he lays claim on behalf of the Social Democrats, despite the fact that it is much more commonly used by Conservatives as the proper description of their approach to political economy.

Dr Owen claims that the term "social market" could become "a more accurate description of what many see as the correct mixture within the mixed economy", and claims that the Conservatives have misused the term to mean non-interventionism combined with support for the welfare state. In fact, he even asserts that the term is particularly associated with the 1959 Bad Godesberg agreement accepted by the German Social Democratic Party when it abandoned Marxist economics and in consequence achieved years of electoral success in partnership with the German Liberals.

Dr Owen's history is, however, less than precise. It was originally the Christian Democrats under Adenauer who campaigned for the first post-war

Bundestag with the slogan "social market economy", and it was the liberalization of the market by the German Liberal Ludwig Erhard in the predominantly CDU coalition which gave the term reality. The economic miracle that followed, forced the Social Democrats to change and accept the basic principles of the social market economy as the price of their survival.

Though there is government steering of the economy in consultation with industry, banks and unions, the over-riding criterion for such steering has been the avoidance of inflation and creating conditions within which free-market processes, operating for profit, really can function everywhere.

Is this really the kind of social market economy to which Dr Owen lays claim for the Social Democrats in Britain? It remains unclear.

The same kind of uncertainty attaches to his approach to the idea of an incomes policy. He thinks there should be one in some form because of the difficulty of pursuing a more expansionary policy without triggering inflation. On the other hand, he does not want the old centralized policies with fixed norms and percentages. He would like to see some kind of decentralized incomes strategy in which arbitration plays a major part. But having said this, he still thinks there must be mechanisms for restraining incomes in the last resort, including statutory powers. So where, in the end, do the Social Democrats stand on this question? It is hard to believe that Dr Owen, in talking about "a system of non-inflationary comparability for the public sector" does not hanker somewhat after the old bureaucratic structures - and, indeed, it is hard to be confident that his general interpretation of the "Social Market" economy does not involve a return to many of the old

bureaucratic and planning attitudes of the Wilson years.

There is much that is good sense in his approach. He advocates a free society, free of the class-clash attitudes which disfigure Labour thinking. He is patriotic in foreign policy; concerned for social welfare. Much of his emphasis on industrial consultation would now be shared by Conservatives. They would or should certainly welcome much of his thinking on social welfare. For as well as placing a special emphasis on the provision of welfare, which must be inevitable for any left-of-centre politician, Dr Owen denounces social policy which equates material equality with social justice. His definition of equality puts the focus of policy on the worst-off groups, and his test for welfare policies is whether they help the worst off. In other words, it is a selective approach to welfare which would appeal to many Conservatives, but the question is how far it will appeal to rank-and-file social democrats and the Labour voters they need to attract.

So many topics are touched upon so variously in this book (though it is often turgidly written) that one is left with the overwhelming impression that what Dr Owen and his party most badly need is political synthesis to indicate more clearly what they would like to do. Is social democracy fundamentally a return to state-planning egalitarianism? Or is there really an attachment to a free "social market" economy, and if there is, how do the party's attitudes to planning and economic management really stand up? Is it an egalitarian party (what precisely would it do about the redistribution of wealth?) or is it not? Dr Owen has many thoughts and he is trying to beat a new path in British politics. But he needs to give his thoughts much more shape, simplicity and clarity if his party is to go forward.

THREATS TO FREE TRADE

September will be a crucial month for the future of free trade. On Tuesday, the textile committee of Gatt will meet in emergency session in Geneva in a list ditch stand to oppose the imminent imposition of tougher regulations on clothing and textile import quotas by the United States. The following week, President Reagan must decide on his response to calls by the country's International Trade Commission for tougher quotas on 70 per cent of US steel imports. His likely alternative appears to lie in a Commerce Department plan for voluntary bi-lateral agreements with several developing countries to curb their rising exports. Lobby pressure is also growing in Washington for the United States to withdraw from the so-called consensus of leading industrial nations on export credit subsidies, thus provoking an interest subsidy war.

Such moves are not unexpected. Influential members of the Reagan Administration who have stoutly resisted rapidly spreading protectionist tendencies in Congress have warned Europeans, in particular, not to overreact to what they see as inevitable gestures to protectionist lobbies by President Reagan in an election year.

Both the US measures and those in Europe show quite clearly that the commitments at the London economic summit and its predecessors to contain new protectionist measures and promote freer trade are simply not holding up. Despite the recent US predilection for

countervailing duties, Gatt has broadly held the line on tariffs and the various progressive tariff reduction measures have given a facade to movement to a more open trading system. Behind this facade, however, has grown up a plethora of quota restrictions and bi-lateral deals of a more or less voluntary nature to limit the quantity of trade in specified goods between individual countries. The November annual meeting of Gatt will be presented with a dossier of quotas running to more than two thousand pages.

These represent almost entirely governments bowing to sectional interests. Few seriously question the general case for free trade in protecting consumers by competition, improving the efficiency of industry and the allocation of resources and aiding the development of the third world. It is vital that this general principle should be kept at the forefront, since protection for virtually any industry can be given a veil of intellectual justification by arguments to give new industries a chance to grow or old ones a chance to regroup and rationalise.

That is one reason for the rise of quotas and other quantitative restraints on trade. Exchange rates are fluctuating rapidly against each other, more often because of differences in interest rates than to reflect the balance of trade. The market mechanism, which should adjust for broad movements in competitiveness between countries, is not working.

Yet quotas are the worst kind

of protection. They stifle price competition more than tariffs and export not merely unemployment but also monopoly, since car exporters from Japan or textile exporters from Hong Kong are induced to carve up their slice of foreign markets by informal cartel arrangements. Moreover, quotas inevitably act more harshly against new producers and exporters and freeze the pattern of world trade.

The tendency to manage trade bi-laterally through quotas will undermine all the good work on tariffs in the postwar world unless more action is taken to match fine international declarations in favour of free trade. The underlying problem is the tendency of floating exchange rates to reflect interest rates rather than trade, exacerbated by international money markets in which other currencies are no more than planets revolving round the dollar. There can be no return to fixed exchange rates, which collapsed under the pressure of international hot money. For the same reason, official intervention in exchange markets can be no more than an expensive palliative.

Practically, the best hope may lie in the development of regional currency blocks around the Japanese yen and the European Monetary System to give more balance in foreign exchange markets. Within these blocks, there may be greater hope of that integration of national economic policies that has so notably failed at the world level.

NOT QUITE CRICKET

Imagine if you will the scene. It is dark and dead of night in the White House. There is not a sound save for the distant hum of electronic security devices. The President sleeps, with a happy smile on his face, dreaming of the campaign he will hardly have to fight to secure his next term of office. His wife, without whom he could not manage, sleeps soundly by his side. But less deeply.

The silence in their room is suddenly broken in the small hours by a sudden, insistent, pulsating, regular shrill sound. She is wide awake. Is it President, or Chernenko on the hot line? Is it an aide to whisper some news about the final tally of communist gold medals at their version of the Olympics? Is it HADES (Hostile Across Distance Early-Warning System) and just four minutes to ring the children? The noise comes not from any telephone. It is not even man made. It is a chirruping cricket somewhere in the room. Mrs Reagan cannot get back to sleep.

House Counsellor on Pest Affairs was summoned. On his way in, he passed on his way out the red-faced Counsellor on Sports Affairs, who was sent for when aides said the President had a cricket problem. The second man ordered the plants in the President's bedroom to be removed. That night everyone went thankfully to sleep. Except Mrs Reagan.

The cricket was still in there somewhere, keeping her awake. On Tuesday morning the room's air ducts were searched and the whole area sprayed with cricket-killing insecticide. That night everyone went thankfully to sleep. Except Mrs Reagan.

The cricket had expired, like England, she lay awake waiting for it to re-start. The anticipation was awful. She fretted through the night. Since then she seems to have slept more soundly.

The bedtime story comes from the White House press office this week where news conferences were unusually - for the time of the year - packed. The nation was agog to hear about the battle of Nancy versus insect.

When news broke, the nation had held its breath. Cricket experts (from Sri Lanka?) offered advice and help. Insomniac groups suggested counselling, and hawks thought Nancy ought to be given the emergency code words so that she could order the bombing of Russia in the night as (a) she was the only one likely to wake up in time, and (b) even if the President said it, everyone would think he was still joking.

The loudest cries should have come from the readers of Charles Dickens. In John Peerybingle's happy home, the cricket on the hearth chirped when all was well, and was silent when unhappiness pervaded. Dickens does not tell us what would have been the state of things had Dot Peerybingle arranged for the hapless creature to be sprayed to death, but perhaps the inner realisation of what she may have unwittingly done by producing pervasive unhappiness was what really kept Nancy awake in the small hours. It was not, Mrs Reagan, cricket, and we should know.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

High time for Britain to resolve industrial disputes

From Sir Hugh Cortazzi
Sir, The Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union's proposals to seek no-strike clauses in agreements on pay and conditions should be supported by everyone who wants Britain to survive and be more competitive. Those who criticize this policy at the TUC Congress next week should recognize that they will only score own goals.

The main political parties and both sides of industry in this country have generally accepted that an essential part of our strategy in trying to cope with the huge trade imbalance between Britain and Japan is to be found in industrial cooperation. This means not only British and Japanese firms working together in technology, manufacture and research, but also increased Japanese investment in productive manufacture in Britain.

We have had some successes, but we need much more Japanese investment. Whenever, as British Ambassador to Japan (October 1980 - February 1984) I advocated this, my Japanese interlocutors, from the Prime Minister and the Chairman of the Federation of Economic Organisations (Keidanren) downwards, invariably asked about our industrial relations record and suggested that this was a major obstacle to increased investment.

Last year I had good material to use in our defence. My successor's task this year is much more difficult. Japanese firms will pay good wages and will look after their work force in return for loyalty and hard work. But they are not prepared to be held to ransom by irresponsible behaviour or to be dragged into disputes which have nothing to do with them.

Dock strikes and transport strikes for political ends, to say nothing of miners striking for ever-increasing subsidies from the taxpayer, undermine all our efforts to get Japanese and other foreign companies to invest in Britain and create more jobs here.

The TUC Congress should begin with a resolution not to kick own goals!

Yours faithfully,
HUGH CORTAZZI,
Ballistics,
Vines Cross,
East Sussex,
August 29.

From Lord Lansdowne
Sir, This nationally disastrous strike by coal miners has run on so long that I wonder whether they and the nation as a whole may not be beginning to lose sight of what it is really all about and why it ever started. If the employers "win", what will they have won? If the striking miners "win", what will they have achieved?

Apart from taking the available measures to uphold the law of the land and order, HM Government has steadfastly maintained its position of non-intervention between the NCB and the NUM. Within the framework of British

parliamentary democracy and free enterprise, this position is, no doubt, correct. But could not the Prime Minister, with her clear and incisive mind and with the great advantage of having access to all the economic and social factors involved, give to the nation an exposition of the situation as she sees it and remind us all of the sequence of events which have led up to the present state of bitterness and violence? Could she not tell the nation what she hopes her policies could ultimately offer to the mining industry?

Fear and anger have provoked slanging and slogging, and slanging and slogging are blinding reason. I appeal to the Prime Minister to speak to the nation and describe to us all the position as she sees it with a step-by-step account of how this dispute has evolved. I believe that such a restatement of the facts by her Majesty's First Minister might promote reasoning and help to bring about a solution creditable to both sides in the dispute.

Yours faithfully,
LANDSDOWNE,
Mickleour,
Perth,
August 30.

From Mr Anthony Cripps, QC
Sir, The present strike situation raises not only industrial and economic problems of national importance but also a major constitutional issue.

The coal industry is supported largely out of taxation and the only democratic way in which taxation can be settled, as to how much is levied on all of us, is by Parliament.

If uneconomic pits are to be maintained in operation that is done through taxation and subsidy-matters for Parliament to determine. If the NUM were able to insist on uneconomic pits being continued in operation that means that the NUM is able to decide on the amount of subsidy and therefore on part of the taxation to be levied. Surely this is quite wrong on any basis of reason, or economics, or politics. The industry at present only survives on huge subsidies anyhow!

The great cost, in convenience and money, to all not involved in striking, to the nation as a whole, means that there is now conclusive evidence against nationalisation of any industry, for nationalisation puts the nationalised industry into what is a blackmail position to insist on doing what the industry wants against the wishes of the nation even.

The blackmail position arises out of the monopoly created by nationalisation, which is, however, unobjectionable on the grounds indicated provided there are not strikes of any significance.

Surely the time has come to require strikes in nationalised industries which last longer than, say, a week or two to be settled on terms decided by an independent tribunal, or even by Parliament itself? This is because the strikes of any significance remove the underlying dispute from the industrial to the political sphere.

Advocacy rights

From the Chairman of the Bar
Sir, I have just seen the report by your Legal Affairs Correspondent in *The Times* for August 21, and would like to clarify the position by amplifying some of the points which she made.

Employed barristers have for very many years been permitted by the Bar Council to appear on behalf of their employers before any court or tribunal which would hear them in their capacity as officers or agents of their employers. It was, of course, and still is for the court or tribunal concerned to decide in each case whether it would hear an employed barrister in that capacity. Rights of audience are granted by the courts or by Parliament, not by the Bar Council.

The change in the Bar's code of conduct was primarily intended to emphasise that employed barristers have a special claim on the attention of a court or tribunal by virtue of their legal qualification and training. It was published in February, 1984, and was not in any way related to the recent discussion about the position of barristers and solicitors to be employed in the new independent prosecution service.

Finally, I wish to make clear that an employed barrister is not permitted to appear as counsel in robes. Such robes are the insignia of the practising barrister and emphasise his independence of all parties.

Yours, etc,
MICHAEL WRIGHT,
Senate of the Inns of Court and the Bar,
11 South Square,
Gray's Inn, WC1,
August 29.

Death of Antonescu

From Dr Dennis Deleant
Sir, The statement in your leader of August 25 that King Michael had the pro-Nazi dictator Marshal Antonescu shot is inaccurate. After the latter's arrest by the King on August 23, 1944, he was handed over to the Romanian communists. On September 3 General Malinovsky demanded his surrender to the Soviet authorities and he was taken to Moscow.

Antonescu was brought back to Bucharest in May, 1946, to stand trial for "bringing disaster on Romania and for war crimes". Convicted by a people's tribunal, he was sentenced to death and executed by firing squad at Jilava prison, near Bucharest, on June 1, 1946.

Lunghua Camp

From Mrs Irene Duguid Kilpatrick
Sir, J. G. Ballard's *Empire of the Sun* as fiction is interesting reading. (extracts, August 27, 28, 29) but, as he has used the name of the camp he was interned in, I feel, as an ex-internee of Lunghua Camp, that in that instance the facts should have been fairly portrayed.

Lunghua Civil Assembly Centre, seven miles outside Shanghai, was opened in March, 1943, and started with about 2,000 internees: British, American, a handful of Dutch and Belgian families. The Americans were evacuated six months later on September 20 to Laurence Marques, except for the two Jesuit priests, who nobly declined to abandon the boys they were caring for - 30 or so American seamen joined the camp later.

The Japanese just provided food, water and guards; the only contact was between their commandant and our camp representative and organizing committee set up to run the camp.

It was very well run - like a small town, with a school, hospital, churches, clubs for entertainment,

Directional thinking

From Captain R. G. Sharpe, RN
Sir, Philip Howard's lack of a sense of geographical direction (article, August 17) is a widespread disability easily alleviated. The secret is to take a point of reference, usually a prominent landmark (but for a journalist your "local" will do) and then orientate your surroundings to it, using the cardinal points of the compass.

Once you have acquired the habit of thinking in terms of north/south, east/west, even driving through unknown suburbs becomes a less daunting task. In unfamiliar houses most owners usually know which wall faces south and if it isn't geographically self-evident the orientation of the streets in the vicinity can easily be checked in advance from a single road map.

As Philip Howard suggests, sense

News from Uganda

From the High Commissioner for the Republic of Uganda

Sir, May I be permitted to correct some of the facts reported by William Pike (August 24). Brigadier Smith Opon-Acak is a Lango but not a "cousin" or any relation of President Milton Obote; unless, of course, we were to regard every Welshman, or for that matter every Scotsman, a cousin to each other. Smith Opon-Acak has been appointed chief of staff and not as head of the army. General Tito Okello, incidentally an Acholi, is the commander and head of the army. After the death of the late Brigadier

From my own limited experience I know of coal sales lost which will never be regained. There are obviously endless other examples.

The constitutional point is therefore, in essence, who is to decide the level of taxation. Parliament (as heretofore) or the NUM, or the TUC?

I am, Sir, etc,
ANTHONY CRIPPS,
1 Harcourt Buildings,
Temple, EC4,
August 30.

From Mr Stuart Johnstone

Sir, On the eve of the TUC conference I hope delegates will recognise that what is on trial is who rules - elected Parliament or the mob.

If the left-wing mob is allowed to rule there is no reason why a future left-wing government should not face a right-wing mob. This would be called fascism - and the present mob should be labelled the same.

We are on treacherous ground. Many, and not only Tories, will see that Scargillism must be defeated, not to defeat unionism, but to defeat mob rule. After its defeat the more moderate union leaders will need widespread support in rebuilding their organisations on safer lines.

Yours faithfully,
STUART JOHNSTONE,
The Athenaeum,
Pall Mall, SW1,
August 30.

From Mr Reg Bolton

Sir, I believe Mr MacGregor should write one more short letter to each of the 180,000 miners.

Each miner would be asked to complete a tear-off section of the letter, indicating "yes" or "no" to the following question: "Do you wish the Coal Board to make a formal request that the NUM holds a ballot on the Coal Board's most recent offer?"

Yours faithfully,
REG BOLTON,
219 Westcombe Hill,
Blackheath, SE3.

From Mrs Phyllis M Green

Sir, If my grandchild asks me what the miners mean by brother and comrades what should my answer be?

Yours faithfully,
PHYLLIS M. GREEN,
Corner House,
Upper Grange Road,
Beccles,
Suffolk,
August 30.

From Mr Ivor Berger

Sir, Reference your article, "Saudis find coal in the desert" (August 29), could we not send Mr Arthur Scargill to organize the unions over there on our behalf?

Yours faithfully,
IVOR BERGER,
6 Shaw Close,
Hartsbourne Road,
Bushy Heath,
Hertfordshire,
August 29.

study, sport and games and we turned the rough ground into productive and beautiful gardens. The Protestant clergy were in charge of drama, the Jesuits taught and organized games for the young and the Belgian Consul was a splendid cobbler.

The majority worked hard with little food, doing menial and dirty jobs through the boiling hot summers and bitter cold wet winters - there were grumblers, but the British always grumble; it is their safety valve and keeps people calm.

Right up to the day we walked free standards of cleanliness and fair rationing of food were upheld, despite hardships imposed after a number of successful escapes.

The atom bomb that fell on Hiroshima wiped out the family of the Japanese commandant - we really grieved him. I wonder how many Japs ever pitied us under their thrall in South East Asia?

Yours faithfully,
I. D. KILPATRICK,
The Meadows,
Woodhurst Lane,
Oxted,
Surrey,
August 29.

of direction is a little more difficult in the dark, but the real advanced course includes being able to retain the relative direction of your mental point of reference while standing in a windowless room which keeps changing direction, as in a warship or submarine operations room at sea. After that even a north/south Whitehall running parallel to a predominantly east/west flowing river poses no problem (although in a different context Whitehall contrivances may have wider implications).

As always, the solution is to practise until a habit is acquired; in this case the reward in terms of peace of mind is worth the effort.

Yours faithfully,
R. G. SHARPE,
Royal College of Defence Studies,
Seaford House,
37 Belgrave Square, SW1,
August 20.

David Oyite-Ojok and at the time of Opon-Acak's appointment, there was not a single brigadier in the Uganda army; so five more senior Acholi "brigadiers" could not have been "by-passed".

While I am willing to accept the rest of William Pike's rantings in good humour, I strongly deprecate his deliberate and sinister attempt to drive a tribal wedge in the affairs of my country.

Yours faithfully,
SHAFIQ ARAJIN,
High Commission of the Republic of Uganda,
Uganda House,
58-59 Trafalgar Square, WC2,
August 24.

Books as objects to treasure

From Mr J. A. Griffin
Sir, Christopher Hawtree's article (August 23) is timely. Book production standards have declined to such an extent over the past two decades that conservation of recent books is presenting an increasing problem to the British Library. The imposition of value-added tax to the already high price of books can only accelerate this decline.

The abandonment in many cases of machine sewing of hardback books (hand sewing has long been a thing of the past in most cases) in favour of the cheaper adhesive binding cannot be other than a retrograde step. Thread sewing is as old as the book itself. Its strengths are intrinsic, relying on the folded edges of the gathered leaves.

The so-called "perfect" binding relies only on the extrinsic strength of the adhesive used, such as polyvinyl acetate. The processes which precede this are the same as for a sewn book. Sheets are still folded and gathered in sections. The folded edges are then lapped off, like Samson's hair, and the weak and unstable piles of loose leaves that remain are held together by adhesive.

Many modern plastics are subject to cumulative depolymerisation from environmental factors, such as ultra-violet light. Even at very low levels of exposure this process is inevitable. If first manifests itself as an increasing brittleness.

It cannot be denied that the old animal glues were prone to suffer from the same problem, but with thread holding the book together it was only after a great deal of use that the book needed repairing. Once brittleness appears in the spine of an adhesive bound book the condition is terminal and can only be palliated.

That Oxford, once one of our great university presses, should be in the van of this headlong Armistean pursuit of profit regardless, via the cheap and nasty, is a source of great sorrow to many bibliophiles. If the decline in standards were matched at point of sale most Oxford books would now be sold off street-corner barrows.

We are told that the digital book is almost ready to take over. The growth of home computers and the increasing availability of very high-quality laser printers on a downward price scale opens the very real prospect for the keen bibliophile and bookbinder to be able in the near future to access any book from a data base, format and print it in the typeface of his choice on the highest quality paper he can afford, and then bind it by hand to the very best of his ability, and thus some books at least will take their rightful place again as objects to treasure.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. GRIFFIN,
14 Hamilton Avenue,
Halesworth,
West Midlands,
August 24.

SDP and new ideas

From Mr Dick Taverne, QC
Sir, Sir Alfred Sherman (feature, August 28) claims that the SDP has produced no new ideas, then adds in parentheses that "Dick Taverne's Institute for Fiscal Studies is another matter; but he stayed out of the new party".

His implied compliments are undeserved. First, IFS is not "my" institute. Although I was its original director, and later its chairman, I cannot claim the credit for its excellent work.

Secondly, IFS has never had any connection with the SDP and is determinedly independent of all parties.

Thirdly, I joined the SDP at the start, indeed almost before it was founded. I am a member of its National Committee, and I was chairman of the group that, incidentally, produced a programme for the reform of social security, which is much the most radical and original plan put forward by any party since 1945.

Yours faithfully,
DICK TAVERNE,
60 Cambridge Street, SW1,
August 29.

The Tawney Society

From the General Secretary of the Tawney Society

Sir, If the Tawney Society is without any intellectual impact according to Alfred Sherman (August 28), why did the society feature in the *Times* news columns for two days running before Sir Alfred's piece appeared?

Yours sincerely,
TONY FLOWER,
General Secretary,
The Tawney Society,
18 Victoria Park Square, E2,
August 29.

Thought for the day

From Mr W. E. Robson
Sir, Mr Owen Curtis (August 29) asks whether "tank" in "think tank" is a cistern or an armoured fighting vehicle.

Your diary (same day) says it was founded in 1974 by Sir Alfred Sherman. I have never heard of a Sherman cistern.

Yours sincerely,
W. E. ROBSON,
13 Prior Street, SE10,
August 29.

From Mrs D. M. Wells
Sir, If it is of any help to Mr Owen Curtis, in answer to his letter (August 29), I find that a nice hot bath makes the ideal "think tank".

Yours faithfully,
DAFFNE WELLS,
Snells,
Great Henny,
Sudbury,
Suffolk,
August 29.

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Travel: Hamburg, city of
live-and-let-live; a train
ride to the gateway of
the Indies; Travel News;
and Fare Deals

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In the Garden: House
plants; Out and About
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space at Blackpool;
Bridge; Chess; Crossword;
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to Television, Radio,
Opera, Music, Dance,
Theatre, Films,
Sport and Festivals

1-7 SEPTEMBER 1984 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

In the meadows of Kerry a fine morning beckons. A ride, a round of golf, a wager, and then to Dublin for the races, a few balls of malt and a fling with a slate-eyed girl. But what is the forgotten factor, the moth in the mind, that transforms this Irish idyll into...

My Perfect Day

Number 4: Alan Hamilton

It may have been the shaft of sun from an already azure sky sidling past the blind to splash on the crisp white linen that first stirred me awake, but I rather fancy it was Macgillicuddy.

Being the consummate butler, Macgillicuddy knows precisely the degree of sound to generate when shimmering into the slumbering master's bedroom bearing the fruits of his two greatest talents: an ability to create the perfect kedgeriee and the influence to lay hands on a late edition of *The Irish Times* at six in the morning in the remotest corners of his native hng.

I would not be without him while staying at Lord Fitztherrington's pile in Kerry, where house parties are characterized by an amalgam of limitless hospitality and chaotic informality. The Fitztherringtons arrived with Cromwell, grabbed their acres on the southern Shannon shore and have since slid so deeply into a gentle unworldliness that they are the leading remnant of the Anglo-Irish Descendancy remaining in the far west.

The present twelfth earl will have no truck with electricity or the telephone and the last time a motor car got past the lodge was when an ill-advised rabble of Fenians in a commandeered Silver Ghost swept up the drive in 1921 to take possession of the castle and were repulsed by two barrels of the tenth earl's grapeshot from the roof of the east tower.

The present earl has dedicated his adult life to the compilation of a lavishly illustrated, definitive, limited-edition tome on the snakes of Ireland and spends many a harmless hour on the hillside of the Slieve Mish waiting to spot his first five specimen that he might exercise his considerable artistic talents on its portrait.

I could hear Macgillicuddy running my bath as I raked the inner recesses of a vast wardrobe. My hand fell accidentally upon a pile of dusty papers bound in a bundle with rough twine. Withdrawing it to the light, I flicked through the densely pencilled pages; it appeared to be some kind of

treatise of behaviour of the *Garda Stochana* in the west of Ireland. I had no time to inspect it further, for Macgillicuddy called me to the tub, and I stuffed the bundle, intrigued, into the capacious inner pocket of a hacking jacket for later inspection.

Descending the sweeping grand staircase a little later, I was greeted by the earl, beaming broadly, in the hall in silk topper, pink hunting jacket, jodhpurs, and black, mirror-polished, riding boots embellished with a pair of silver spurs.

"Yourself!" he cried, flinging his arms wide and brandishing his riding crop. "Tis a grand morning for golf!"

The ravishing countess, 20 years his junior, kissed me, a lingering goodbye, using the cover of the embrace to slip into my pocket a silver hip flask of the earl's treasured and secret stock of 50-year-old Black Bushmills whiskey.

She whispered to me what I thought was: "My mood wants you to be frisky", but was in fact "It's good Protestant whiskey." I was relieved not to be tempted into an abuse of the earl's hospitality; Macgillicuddy would have disapproved.

Outside stood two fine chestnut mares, their tossing heads held by O'Shaughnessy the ostler, an enormous West Indian who had left Barbados with the notion of introducing cricket to Ireland but had abandoned the scheme after finding his carefully nurtured wicket desecrated overnight and planted with seed potatoes.

We mounted and rode off into the morning, the sun warming our backs and a gentle Atlantic breeze bearing the scent of wild flowers from the Kerry meadows. Ireland is truly the greenest place on earth, and that particular clarity of light in the west invests it with a luminescence that no English landscape can match.

To while away the hour we spoke of philosophers and poets, and the earl reminisced upon great house parties of the past, attended by every major Irish literary figure of the century; upon the night that Oscar Wilde, dressed in the uniform of a Prussian general, wrestled a Mullingar heifer all the way up the grand staircase; and upon the weekend that a visiting GBS became so out-

rageously drunk on Tullamore Dew that he stood on the mantelpiece of the green drawing room and recited the entire unpublished collection of Sigismund Freud's rude fimericks.

We passed the last mile at a stiff, exhilarating gallop to arrive at the gate of Ballybunion golf course, where we dismounted to be greeted by a club secretary entirely unconcerned at the arrival of two players in the full working garb of the Quorn Hunt.

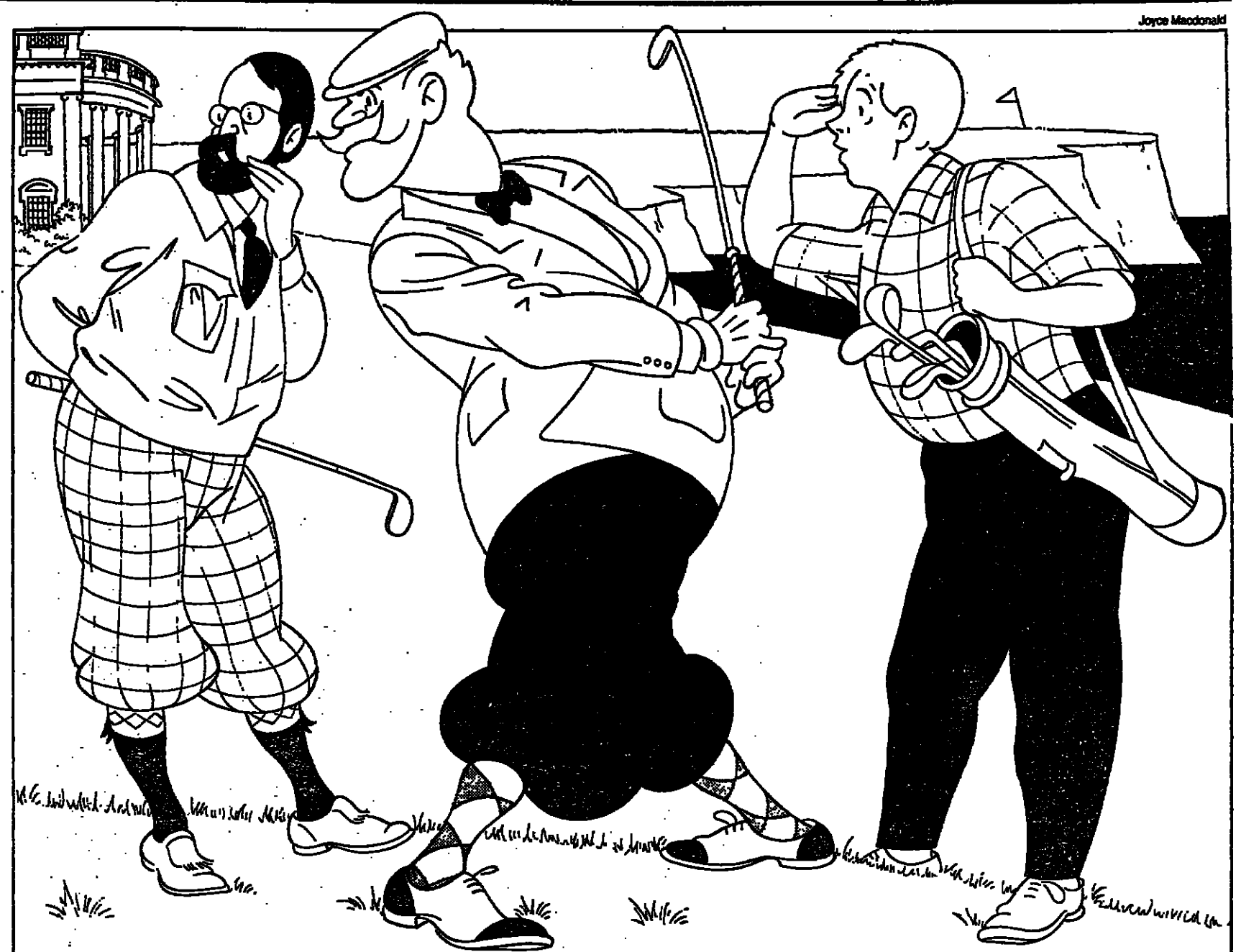
We changed, and the earl effected an introduction to my partner of the day, Tom Watson, who plays the course before every British Open in the belief that the Ballybunion is the finest golf links in the world. Watson had his latest set of carbon-fibre, chrome-moly clubs; Macgillicuddy had sent ahead my trusty old hickory shafts with hand-made heads crafted to my order by Tom Auchterlonie in St Andrews.

Ballybunion is one of the most challenging courses in the world, not least because it is one of the windiest. But today the Atlantic howl had died to a douse draught, just enough to blunt the cutting edge of the cloudless sun.

Watson was one up at the turn, and we halved the tenth; my big test had come.

The eleventh is Ballybunion's supreme challenge: a par 4 a shade beyond 380 yards. You have to drive at least 180 yards to avoid a frightful patch of rough in front of the tee, and accuracy is essential. To the right is the sea, and to the left a monstrous mountain of sand. Playing ahead of us, the earl had fired straight into the Shannon, and his partner had hooked into the Sahara of bunkers to the landward. Watson's power let him down for once, and he drove a bare 120 yards into the rough.

It was up to me to show them. Pating my pockets I found the countess's hip flask, took a generous suck of Black Bush, and addressed the Slazenger. You can tell when the connexion is good; no unpleasant shock waves pulse up the shaft to numb your arm, and there is almost an absence of sound. Watson whipped a small brass telescope from his



pocket and followed my trajectory. "Spot on", he called. "Dead ahead the bottleneck."

The approach to the green is through a narrow vale between sand dunes, requiring perfect accuracy. I was six yards from the pin, but still a yard ahead of Watson's second, and powerful recovery blast down the fairway. A controlled, nine-iron shot, which I always think is my best, lofted in the air, bounced once on the fast dry green, rolled obligingly to the lip of the hole, and stopped.

It was a divine intervention. Of a sudden, stirring of the wind, but we stood in silent wonder as the white orb chose to take one more roll and drop with a resonant plop into the pot. It was only then that I saw Peter Alliss and the camera crew watching us from a distance. The camera, I noticed, was running.

We remained level for the rest of the round, until I managed to snatch victory on the eighteenth green with a rather fine six-yard putt. Watson instantly paid up the £50, wager, not in local punts but in the good brown Florence Nightingale stuff.

Macgillicuddy had brought round the drophad Aston Martin and we all piled in for a short drive to lunch at a cool, wisteria-clad old riverside hotel where we took our stout and oysters on the terrace, watching opulent white yachts lazily ply the estuary. We were joined by the man who writes the parliamentary sketches from the *Dail* for *The Irish Times* and who is therefore by definition the funniest man in the western hemisphere.

He regaled us with much wicked scandal about the fallen idols of Leinster House and introduced us, in turn, to a weasel-faced man in collarless shirt and brown felt trilby who revealed himself as P. O. O'Hooligan, freelance mathematician and veterinary consultant.

The O'Hooligan's speciality, upon which he gave the impression of having gained a doctorate at Trinity, was the 7.30 race at Phoenix Park that very evening. All Irishmen consider themselves authorities on the turf, but the O'Hooligan had patently graduated *summa cum laude* in his art. "Is it not me own brother is working as head lad for Vincent O'Brien himself and was he not on the telephone this very morning with the information?"

The tip was Fourth Policeman, and the O'Hooligan had calculated a win by three lengths. A pity, I remarked to the assembled company, that Phoenix Park was on the other side of Ireland. I had, of course, reckoned without Macgillicuddy; he materialized from the shadows to whisper that, even as we spoke, a twin-engined Cessna was having its ice-box refuelled with Krug '78 in an adjacent meadow.

We lingered over lunch well into the lazy, bee-loud afternoon, until the Cessna whisked us from the dazzling western light of Kerry across the dun-brown middle of Ireland and the brilliant green velvet of Kildare, wheeling into Dublin over the Bay of Killiney that is so like the Bay of Naples without the volcano.

The president of the Irish Republic did not in the least mind us landing the Cessna in the garden of his official residence in Phoenix Park; indeed, after a hard day's presiding he felt like a bit of the horses himself, and would introduce us to a particularly trustworthy turf accountant of his acquaintance. Dangerous Dan Driscoll.

We found Dan's pitch by the rails and inquired what price he might care to contemplate for a horse by the name of Fourth Policeman. "You're a brave man, sir, to be putting your shirt on an old grey mare that's never in its life seen a winner's post for the arses of the rest of the field. For a gentleman of quality like yourself sir, a hundred to one."

I decided to stake my takings from Watson for the golf 50 quid to win. Money, after all, was no object since my much-acclaimed treatise on how the Scots have a higher incidence of genius than any other race on earth had entered its sixth printing within a year and we had just sold the Chinese rights.

I almost forgot to watch the race, for I had become engaged in intense debate with a man at the rails whose binoculars I had merely wished to borrow, on who was the greatest comic novelist of all time. The president and the earl had joined us, and I barely noticed, nor hardly cared, that Fourth Policeman was beaten into second place by three lengths.

Argument was still raging when we bid the president good evening and adjourned to the womb-like mahogany snug of Ryan's Bar outside the park gates. The earl was mounting a stout, if bizarre, case for Kafka's *The Trial*, which he maintained all the way to Mullingar's Bar, then to Doheny and Nesbitt's, all through the back bar at Neary's, and finally down to the Brazen Head below Christ Church Cathedral, where he was temporarily silenced by the enchanting performance of an Irish country fiddler.

I had maintained throughout that the finest comic novel in existence was Flann O'Brien's *The Third Policeman*. "Knew the fellow well", said the earl suddenly. "Used to come to our house parties. Told me once he was writing a sequel, but I doubt he ever did."

An irritatingly vague thought had been flitting formlessly around the back of my mind all afternoon, like a darting moth in a darkened room. It was

suddenly netted by two simultaneous events: the earl's chance remark, and the long probing fingers of the disturbing beautiful colleen with the deep searching eyes which were running admiringly over the cut of my tweed. They found the bulky outline of the forgotten package deep in my poacher's pocket.

In the dim light of the bar we untied the twine and peered at the dusty title page. It was faint and yellow, but discernibly *The Fourth Policeman: a novel by Flann O'Brien*. The earl and I let out a simultaneous whoop, pumped each other by the hand, and demanded large balls of malt from the potboy. But when I explained how I had come upon it in the earl's wardrobe that morning, he instantly changed his tack.

"Worth a fortune, me boy. But it's mine, I tell you. Fellow was my house guest; left it in my wardrobe. Old bouncer was as mad as a hatter, could never have done it without me. Tell you what, you can have it for five thousand."

There was no decently denying his proprietorial rights. Anyway, five thousand was a bargain; I would fly with it to London in the morning and be the toast of Bloomsbury as I auctioned it on the steps of the Garrick with Lords Weidenfeld and Longford prostrating their cheque books at my feet. I made to write the earl a cheque at once; we both patted our pockets in vain for a pen, but my tweed-siroking admirer rescued the deal with a small bottle of purple nail varnish and the quill of a passing goose.

I danced all the way down Dame Street with Vanessa the slate-eyed colleen, and we cast a fresh rose in the churchyard where her Swiflian namesake had been.

My suite at the Shelbourne awaited, my luggage already installed and a set of silk pyjamas laid out. I was propped on a mountain of feather pillows dipping at random into my treasured manuscript and enjoying the boundless imagination of the man, when there was the softest of knocks on the door; Macgillicuddy shimmered in, bearing a fat brown envelope which he placed discreetly on the bedside table and made to withdraw.

"There was a stewards' inquiry on the 7.30, sir", he whispered. "Fourth Policeman was declared the winner at a hundred to one, and Dan Driscoll paid up. That's five thousand, exactly."

Castles for hire, but not Macgillicuddy

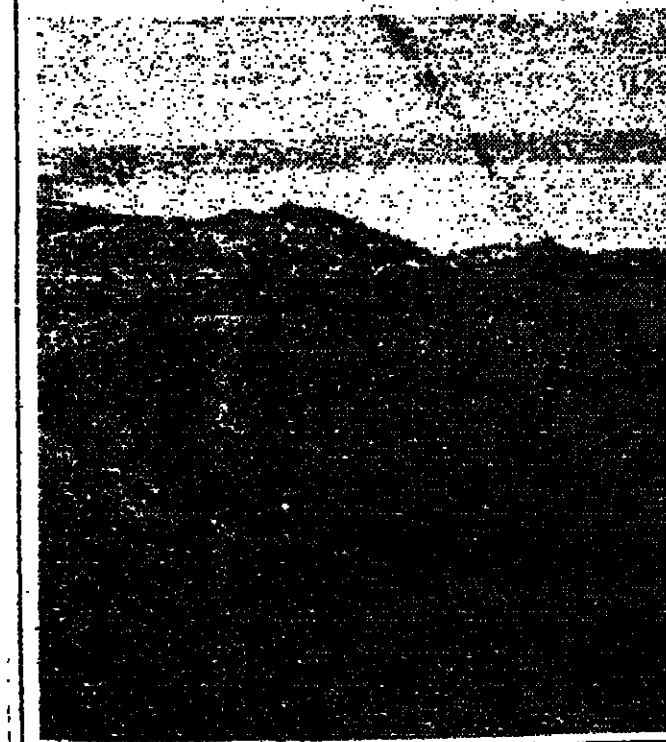


● Earl Fitztherrington's pile is not to be found in any guidebook, but you can rent a real-life twelfth-century Irish castle for a house party, complete with butler and cook. Lismore Castle (left), the Irish home of the Duke of Devonshire, can be rented for £22,500 per week. Ideal for parties of up to ten. Contact Paul Burton, Lismore Castle, County Waterford (010 353 53 54424). Alternatively you can live in luxury in County Kerry at Caragh Village, a development of 18 luxurious three-bedroomed houses in landscaped grounds by Caragh Lake. Rent £2200-250 per week (£2100-160 in low season). Contact Michael O'Connor, Caragh Village, County Kerry (016 353 66 61540).

● Ballybunion golf course (below), welcomes visitors; green fees £10 per day including weekends. The Ambassador Hotel offers golf weekends from £253 per person, including green fees. The Ambassador Hotel, Ballybunion, County Kerry (010 353 68 27111).



The Gap of Dunloe, near Killarney, County Kerry



● Phoenix Park has frequent weekday evening race meetings. Admission £23 (£220 to the owners/trainers enclosure). Phoenix Park Race Course, Castleknock, County Dublin (0001 300857).

● A one-way, 5-seater light aircraft charter from County Kerry to Dublin will cost £2525 from Shannon Executive Aviation, Shannon Airport (010 353 61 61901).

● The Shelbourne Hotel's most luxurious accommodation is the Princess Grace Suite including 2

bedrooms, sitting room, dining room and kitchen, at £2250 per night. The Shelbourne Hotel, St Stephen's Green, Dublin (0001 768471).

● More information and guidebooks from offices of the Irish Tourist Board in Britain: 150 New Bond Street, London W1 (01 483 8201); 26 Cross Street, Manchester (061 832 5981); 6-8 Temple Row, Birmingham (021 238 9724); 19 Dixon Street, Glasgow (041 221 2911).

● Macgillicuddy is devoted to his master and is not available for hire.

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VALUES

Feast from the East

Beryl Downing explains why well-oriented shoppers will head for Liberty and Brighton

Anyone in search of Eastern promise will have to head south this month. In London the collector's Mecca is Liberty's in Regent Street and in Brighton it is not the Prince Regent's dotty pavilion, but a small shop in Trafalgar Street which is holding an exhibition of Japanese textiles and dolls of specialist interest.

This hilly back street near the station will, I am told, eventually rival The Lanes as an antiques centre in Brighton. But at the moment it is still up-and-coming, like a semi-reformed down-and-out making a start by refurbishing his cardboard box with Osborne & Little. Here and there is a splash of style and the Japanese Antique Textiles exhibition at Page & Hawkes, 30 Trafalgar Street (0273 609310) is certainly worth a visit.

Brian Page has specialised in Japanese books and prints for 15 years, mixing them recently with art nouveau, which was strongly influenced by oriental design. The exhibition, which opens today for the whole of September, adds a selection of antique textiles, paintings, miniature doll's house furniture and traditional dolls collected in Japan by another expert in antiques, David Gribbin, who has lived there for 12 years.

There are 600 pieces of cotton, silk and wool on show - hand painted and embroidered kimonos, temple hangings, bedcovers and banners, dating from the eighteenth century to the present. The variety of design and technique is fascinating.

An eighteenth-century bronze silk hanging from Kyoto, still the main centre for brocades, features a 16-petalled chrysanthemum, the imperial motif, and a cotton bedcover is decorated with carp, the symbol of a young man's determination because it battles against the river like a salmon. Japanese salesmen, says David Gribbin, are always told to make eight calls on a prospective client. Even if they have had seven refusals, they have to go back once more before they can admit defeat.

Then there are cloths with intricate bird and cloud patterns which have been stencil dyed (the stencils, made of paper pickled in persimmon juice and punched out with a fine chisel, are also for sale at about £6 each). These also have very meticulous geometric designs made by tying and dyeing the warp and weft in the manner of ikat and making detailed calculations before weaving so that

the patterns appear automatically as the yarn is loomed.

"All these different styles are typical of Japan", David Gribbin says. "All the hallmarks of their civilisation come from somewhere else and have been improved and adapted to their needs. They copied their navy from Britain, their army from Prussia, their legal system from France, their beer from Germany and long before that their designs were influenced by China and Korea."

"They attach no importance to being originators. Their maxim is that if you want to be first in a race it is better to stay second until the last few yards - then you run."

Apart from the kimonos, most of the textiles are flat pieces which have been used as altar cloths, hangings or simple covers for futons and are usually bought by collectors to stretch as pictures or use as wall hangings in the home.

The longest are banners of about 20ft, depicting fearsome warriors and other symbols of virility. They have loops on one side through which bamboo poles would be slotted so that they could be set up in front of the houses on Boys' Day, May 5.

On Girls' Day (March 3) beautifully lacquered doll's furniture would be brought out of boxes and set up on a red-covered display stand with a pair of Hina dolls (emperor and empress) on the top. Originally only the aristocracy would have such toys but in the nineteenth century they became more widely available.

They were, however, to be admired rather than played with. Many examples have therefore survived in perfect condition: the oldest pair of Hina dolls in the exhibition were made in 1650 and are still immaculate.

These and the eighteenth-century examples have elaborate costumes but are very stiffly modelled, with carved wooden heads covered in a lacquer-like white shell finish and stuck on a pole into a unmodelled straw body. Not until Victorian times

did Japanese dolls become nearly as pliable as their western counterparts.

Most Japanese dolls cannot be described as "user friendly". One of the most dramatic is an extremely fierce warrior waving a sword at a victim who is leaping out of his way like a startled cat. The warrior is a famous medieval character called Benkei, who was fierce but not all that bright - even today the Japanese refer to a man who throws his weight around in the office but is totally ineffectual at home as Uchi Benkei.

Prices for the dolls indicate that they are not toys. Even the cheapest is £195 and Benkei under his glass dome is £1,800; they seem certain to become even more sought-after when a very handsomely illustrated book, called *Japanese Antique Dolls* by Jill and David Gribbin is published by Phaidon on November 8. It is the first book on the subject in English and consequently is certain to stimulate wide interest.

SHOPFRONT

At The Liberty China Trade, which opens on Tuesday, Japan is represented by a group of woodblock prints of designs for fabrics made in the 1890s. They were originally bound in folders - probably used by salesmen as sample books - and all measure 20cm x 14cm.

There are 300 designs featuring clouds, birds, waves and flowers, each delicately drawn and coloured by some of the nineteenth-century artists who had such an influence on the artistic movements in Europe and the United States. Prices are from £25 to £35 each from Percy Barker at Liberty.

All the rest of the exhibition in the basement is devoted to goods from China - carpets, silks, pearls, basketware. The show represents the longstanding association of Liberty with the Chinese; who have been supplying them with silks since the 1930s and now print many of Liberty's own designs.

Devotees of the annual collection of antique porcelain brought back from China by Liberty's oriental buyer Alison

Pyrah know that the show will also be a pot hunters' paradise.

This year's selection is of particularly high quality and there are some interesting smaller pieces - teapots, for example, which have not been included before, and a collection of scholars' requisites.

These have been used for many centuries in China where the only way for ordinary people to achieve promotion was to become a civil service official by taking innumerable local, country and then capital examinations. The items they required to hold their inks and brushes and seals became symbols of their endeavours. Most of those now available date from the nineteenth century as they were so much in use that very early ones have not survived. Some have the double happiness symbol which implies that the piece was originally given as a good-luck-in-your-exams present. Prices are from £15 to £60.

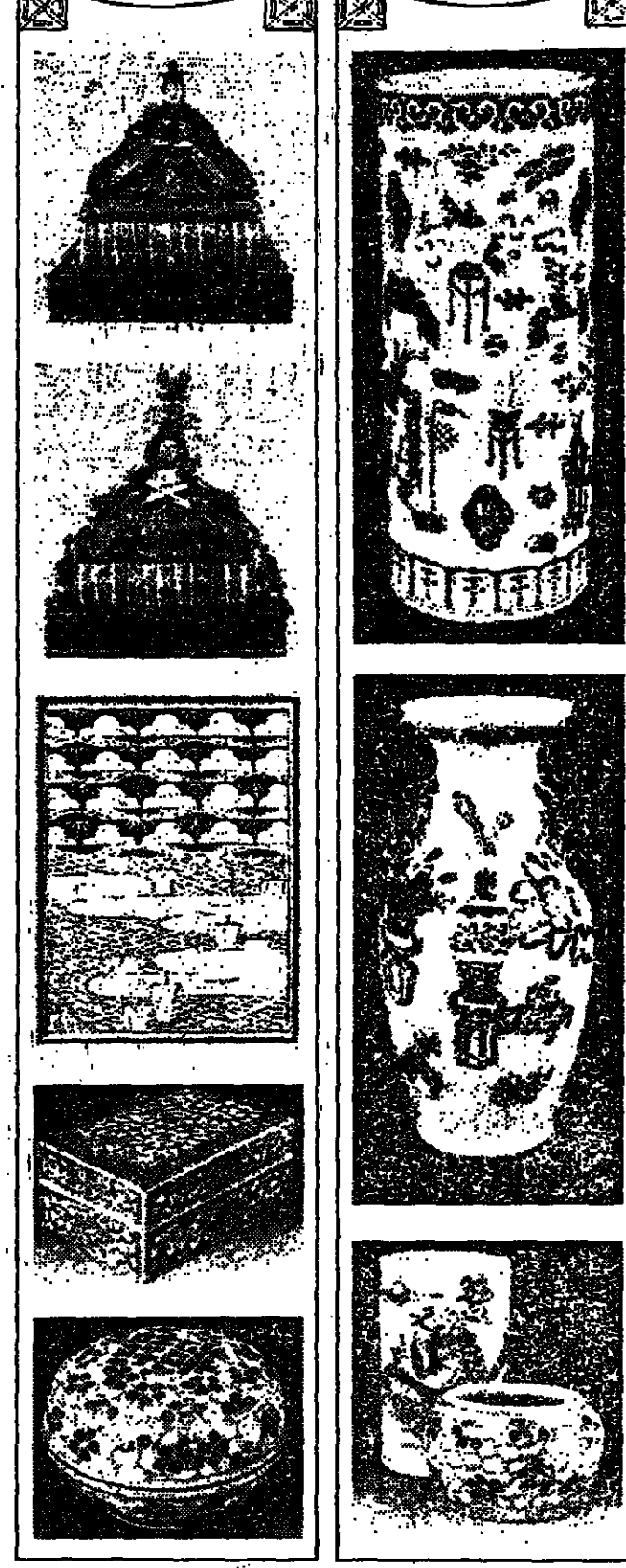
As more people learned to write and the technique of underglaze blue painting allowed less stylized design, the scholars and their requisites also appeared as decoration on larger pots.

Prices of the porcelain range from £5 for a small tea cup or dish to £1,000 for a vase made in the Fa Hua technique - similar to cloisonné, but with the outlines made of clay rather than metal.

On her expedition this year Alison Pyrah also found a collection of beautiful antique embroideries - mostly pieces from mandarin costumes, such as arm bands and medallion motifs, which the Chinese thought she was mad to buy but which are being snapped up by home dressmakers to sew onto blazer pockets or applique onto dresses. These, all hand-made in silk, are from £5 to £30 each.

There are also interesting furnishings, from a superb pair of gilded panels intricately carved on both sides at £2,900, to modern lacquered screens, chests and tables, some inlaid with mother of pearl, from £85 for a carved drum stool to £975 for an 8ft high, eight-panelled screen.

Visitors to the China Trade, which continues until September 22, will be welcomed with a cup of jasmine tea, so if you are feeling parched after tramping round the West End you will know where to go. But be warned - with a collection like this there is no need for hard sell. The Chinese have more inscrutable ways of making you buy.



Above left, a pair of Victorian Hina dolls, emperor and empress, in elaborate costume £195 at Page & Hawkes. Centre, one of a collection of woodblock prints for textiles £35 from Percy Barker at Liberty. Below and bottom right, scholar's requisites - ink box £60, round box with double happiness symbol £60, water pot £45. Top right, pierced pot £50 and vase £40 decorated with pictures of scholar's requisites and household furnishings which at this time replaced the traditional floral motifs. All late nineteenth century in blue and white porcelain at Liberty from September 4.

Master of art

Some day art historians will be able to date late-twentieth-century paintings as pre-Pelikan and post-Pelikan. After five years' research this German company's chemists have just produced an oil paint which for the first time can be rubbed, thinned and cleaned with water instead of the traditional turpentine and linseed oil. Called Mastercolor, the new paint has the main properties of ordinary oil and can be used in the same way. But it is also non-toxic and can be diluted to different consistencies, so with one set of paints you can achieve oil, poster paint or watercolour effects. Brushes can be washed with water, as can the clothes, skin and hair of the artist. Older artists will like its flexibility and the fact that it can be used as

an oil paint, thickly or thinly with a palette knife or a brush, and can be scraped off or painted over. Various surfaces can be used - canvas, board, card or paper - and the colour, which is a synthetic alternative to natural pigment, takes about the same time as oil paint to dry. Amateurs previously put off by the difficulty of handling oils will be encouraged to try their creative hand with this much more controllable medium. A complete Mastercolor painting case containing 12 20ml tubes, three brush sets and a palette costs £17.50 and there are three Colorsets, each containing six tubes of assorted colours, at £5.94. Individual tubes are 89p. Mastercolor is available from the art department of Hamleys, 188 Regent Street, London W1. Contact Suzie Baxter (0206 48221) for local stockists.

Prime pans

Pans do not loom large in my consciousness as objects of great beauty and desirability, but I have to say I am impressed with Tower's new Royale range, designed by David Queensberry. The shape is pleasing, with slightly domed lids, rounded handles and knobs and bases suitable for all types of cookers, including ceramic hobs. The decoration is restrained - simple stripes round the base - and the colours are good: ivory and burgundy, dove grey and charcoal, brown and cream. Best of all, they have SilverStone inside, a non-stick surface which I have used since it was introduced in 1978. It has outlasted all others, even withstanding eggs being boiled dry to the point of explosion. Shown are a 28cm fitted frypan, £18.50 and 18cm saucepan,



£14.50, available in ivory or grey at branches of John Lewis. Major branches of Boots have them in a combination exclusive to them - ivory and mint green - at slightly higher prices than the others.

Carefree cleaners

For those choosing everyday household cleansers the Downing seal of approval is slightly less scientifically based than other, more rigorous, tests. I simply require a product to do safely the task for which it is intended. If it is economical as well, that's a bonus. Here are some recent successes: Solvite Clean Hands: Quick and efficient at removing garden and garage grime and grease. Also gets rid of wet paint and adhesives. By Henkel Chemicals, 480ml bottles at £1.79, 240ml at 99p from Marley Pavers. Fillett: A Swiss washing powder for babies and people with sensitive skins. It contains no enzymes, no soda and only a little perfume. Low foam for use in any machine or by hand and concentrated, so use about half the quantity of standard

powders. At 79p for 550g from selected branches of Tesco or in cases of 15 packets for £13.27 from Swiss Products (UK), Web Offset Building, Burnington Way, Plymouth, Devon. Polyvit: This silver cleaning kit consists of a metal plate and two packets of activator. Place the plate in the sink, use a handful of activator crystals per 4½ litres of hot water and immerse silver for five minutes. Some must touch the plate and all pieces must touch each other for the electro-chemical action to work. And it does, particularly well on those filigree pieces which are so difficult to clean. Made by the Polyvit Manufacturing Company, Lawford House, Albert Place, Finchley, London N3, the kit costs £2.99 from Selfridges, Oxford Street, W1. Or B&B cleaner and kettle descaler: Both the strongest of their kind I have tried. I used the bath cleaner (97p) on some very old lime stains which were improved, although not entirely removed - but then no other cleaner had touched them. The kettle descaler (85p) made an appealingly furry kettle usable and is non-corrosive and safe if spilled. By Ethico at branches of Tesco.

Getting it taped

Forgotten to sew on all those name tapes? Permack produces iron-on tapes at £2.05 for 50 (plus 15p p&p); delivery takes five days. My tester says they were easy to apply but she hasn't had the chance to prove the company's claim that they stay on through all washing, boiling and dry cleaning. For more details contact Permack 1 Station Grove, Wembley, Middlesex (01-803 4544).

COLLECTING

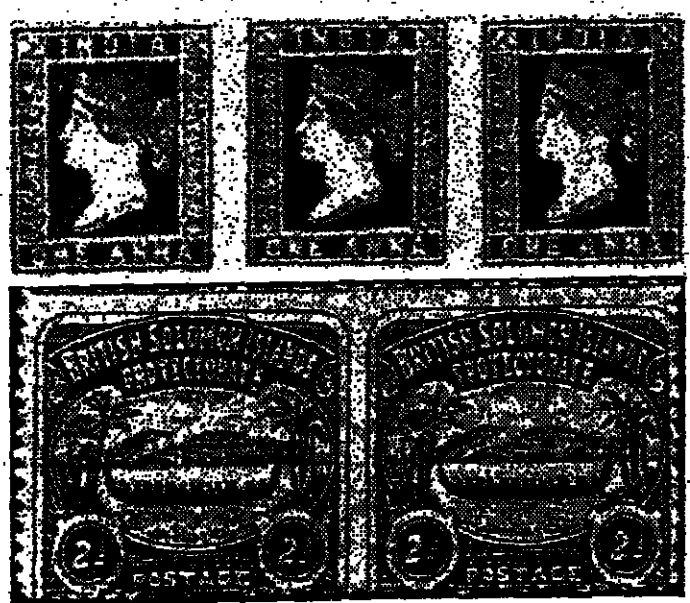
Mistakes provide pennies from heaven

After the extraordinary ups and downs of the last 15 years or so, the stamp market has, for the time being, become fairly stable. Next week's sale at Sotheby's - expected to be the biggest in terms of value that the company has ever held - should provide a useful barometer of trends.

John Michael, director of Sotheby's stamp department, estimates that a stamp fetching £40 in 1970 would, by 1979, have appreciated to £1,600, only to drop back to around £400 today. During the 1970s, stamps suddenly became a very popular investment and speculation was fuelled accordingly.

Unfortunately, the advice on what constituted a valuable stamp was not always sound and in many instances prices went artificially high, only to come down with a bump when the speculative bubble burst. From 1979 to 1982 the market plunged dramatically. Since then, as Mr Michael puts it, "we have moved off the bottom". He says a good stamp should sell, as long as the owner does not try to be too greedy. But the rare specimen that once attracted a flood of buyers now attracts inquiries from perhaps two or three people.

Given the pound's spectacular fall against the dollar, and the powerful American interest in stamps, Mr Michael is surprised that the market is not more buoyant. Even so, he estimates that 80 per cent of the items sold next week will eventually find their way abroad. One of the star items in the catalogue, cautiously estimated



Prized postage: Three of the block of nine 1855 stamps from India; unperfected pair of Solomon Islands stamps

at £10,000 to £12,000, is a Cape of Good Hope one penny from 1861. To the uninitiated it may not look much, a heavily postmarked, blue triangle of no great aesthetic merit. The key to its extraordinary value is what the trade calls "error of colour". Stamps for the Cape of Good Hope were printed after 1853 by the London firm of Perkins, Baker and Company and sent out to Africa by ship. When one of these ships sank, the Cape found itself desperately short of stamps and a local printer was brought in to fill the gap. But the man was careless with his colours, so that one penny stamps that should have

been red came out blue and fourpenny stamps that should have been blue came out red. Several examples have survived but most were poorly printed on indifferent paper. Sotheby's, according to Mr Michael, is handling "one of the finest copies to have come on the market since the Second World War".

The estimate of £4,000 to £6,000 on a block of nine stamps from India could prove even more conservative. These date from 1855 and were printed in Calcutta by the office of the surveyor general to the East India Company. As many as 1½ million came off the

presses, in the space of a mere six weeks, but the vast majority were destroyed soon afterwards when the company changed its stamp issues. Hence their rarity and high prices. Even a single example appears on the market seldom enough: a block of nine, unused and in pristine condition, is a treasure indeed. To find a similar offering, Mr Michael had to go back to the 1920s and he will not be surprised if next week's price goes through the philatelic roof.

A third highlight of the sale is a horizontal pair of Solomon Islands twopenny stamps from 1907. The point here is that one vertical row was printed without perforations so that only 10 unperfected pairs can possibly exist. Of these, seven have been located but most are in established collections and are unlikely to reach the market. Which is why Sotheby's has set an estimate of between £4,000 and £6,000.

Of 1,312 lots, the one expected to realize the highest price is a fine collection of United States stamps of the 1895 Trans-Mississippi issue. The lot comprises 165 items, from die proofs to many combinations of used and franked examples, including a registered cover to Budapest. The collection is expected to make £50,000 to £70,000.

Peter Waymark

The splendid '83 sauternes have sadly been rather overlooked; unlike claret very little en primeur sauternes is ever released. Production is tiny and several important châteaux such as Yquem and Climens do not bother with opening offers, preferring to sell their wine when it is more mature. English wine merchants and restaurants have shown a remarkable reluctance to stock a range of sauternes (or any other sweet wine for that matter).

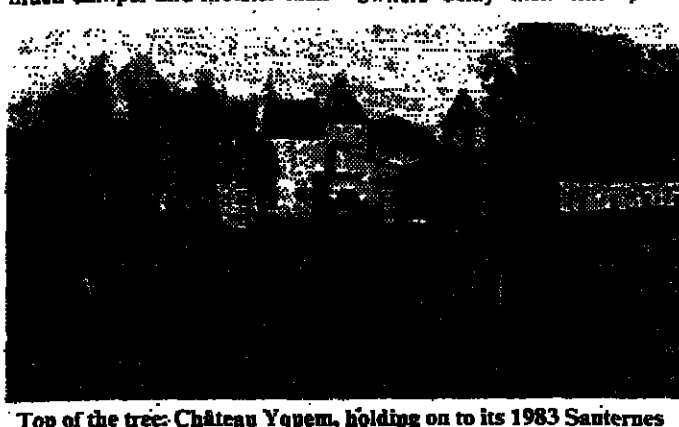
So when two of our most traditional merchants - John Harvey & Sons and The Wine Society - both had offers this summer for en primeur sauternes for the first time, it was definitely time to take note.

The sleepy Barsac and Sauternes region, with its fortified medieval-looking châteaux complete with turrets and towers, lies to the south of Bordeaux and has a completely different climate. The region is much damper and moister than

the Medoc and Graves and yet in the autumn once the morning mists have disappeared it should enjoy longer, hotter days; exactly the sort of warm, humid conditions that give rise to *hottis cinerea* or noble rot; the French call it *pourriture noble*.

The only drawback with noble rot is that it is not a fast worker and every year the Sauternes have the anxiety of deciding when to pick. Too early and they risk losing bunches that, given a few more weeks, might have developed *hottis*; too late and the crop might be destroyed by autumnal rain or hail or even the first of the winter frosts.

The leading châteaux avoid this to some extent by instructing their pickers to harvest only the *hottis cinerea*; they go out into the vineyard as many as seven times or more during an especially long, hot autumn. The most courageous chateau owners delay their final pass-



Top of the tree: Chateau Yquem, holding on to its 1983 Sauternes

ages until well into November and Chateau Filhot, it is said, once delayed theirs until Christmas. But the less well-funded châteaux have no alternative but to pick once and pray that most of the crop has not

In 1983 everything went well. Most châteaux started the harvest in late September and continued until the middle of November, making on average five passages, although the pickers at Coutet went through the vineyard as many as 11 times.

As a result everyone is agreed that the 1983 vintage in Sauternes is outstanding - perhaps one of the best ever - producing wines with a perfect balance between a rich, fruity sweetness and a fresh, lively acidity. The '83 sauternes are also thought to have sufficient depth and body to enable them to mature and develop for the next couple of decades.

John Harvey & Sons of Bristol and Henry Townsend appear to have the cheapest, available and their sauternes en primeur offer does not close until September 14. I tasted both Rieussec (£72.35 per case) and Suduiraut '83 (£95.50) with Harveys; I preferred the Rieussec with its pale gold colour and wonderful rich, full-flavoured character. It is, I feel, going to be a classic '83 sauternes. The Suduiraut with its soft, almost oily, style had a shade less depth than the Rieussec and would perhaps mature sooner.

If you cannot wait until autumn '85 or spring '86 when these wines are shipped, do try Sainsbury's glorious golden '83

Clos Saint-Georges (a Graves Supérieure that borders on Barsac) whose lively, lemony bouquet and intense ripe fruity taste would go down well with summer pudding and is a bargain at just £2.80.

I was also most impressed with the '83 Sauternes Selection Pierre Coste - a much richer, peachier wine than the Saint Georges and with real *pourriture noble* finesse; a snip at £4.59 (Haynes, Hanson & Clark, 36 Kensington Church Street, London W8; 17 Lettice Street, London SW6).

Jane MacQuitty

Expect to pay at least £15 extra per case for shipping, duty and VAT on the en primeur prices. The following merchants carry the widest range of the finest '83 sauternes: John Harvey & Sons, Harvey House, Whitchurch Lane, Bristol; Henry Townsend, Chalk Pit House, Colehill, Amersham, Buckinghamshire; Avey's, 7 Park Street, Bristol; and Adams, Sole Bay Brewery, Southwold, Suffolk.

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CHESS

Prodigious efforts in fiction and fact

There has been quite a spate of novels with a chess theme recently, but with the exception of Nabokov's *The Defence*, none have seemed at all interesting to me. Most have been studies of the rise and fall of a great chess-player and been based on the tragic-comedy of Bobby Fischer's winning and then rejecting the world championship. In general the authors seem to have merely wasted their time, expending many idle words on what Milton described in just one sentence: "that one talent which is death to hide".

But now, from the United States, there comes *The Queen's Gambit*, a really fascinating book by Walter Tevis (Pan, £1.95). It has its weaknesses, including some dreary chess passages and a certain ignorance of the chess world. For instance, it refers to the French chess magazine *Echecs-Echecs* as *Echecs-Europe* which just does not exist. But it does give the painfully exciting atmosphere of the struggle for dominance in world chess and succeeds in so doing without employing technical terms that non-chessplayers might find perplexing.

However, I found some of the descriptions of play somewhat mystifying, possibly because the author was also mystified. It also seems to me to have been a mistake to describe the development of a girl chess prodigy into a great player, since there is no known case of this happening in chess. Perhaps the author's reason for having a heroine rather than a hero lay in his desire to avoid the charge that he was basing his story on that of Bobby Fischer, and it is, after all, a novel and not a history of chess.

Nevertheless, it is an interesting story and ranks alongside such fine works as Nabokov's book and Canetti's *Auto da Fé*. A reminder that one need not resort to fiction to find a suitable story about a chess hero comes from an excellent book published by the Pergamon Press: *Paul Keres Chess Master Class*, by I. Neishtadt (£9.95 hardback, £5.95 paperback). Here I must declare a personal interest as Paul was my best friend among the great masters and he represented for me all that was best and brightest in a galaxy of many brilliant stars.

Neishtadt has composed his book on an original and

rewarding basis, taking advantage of the fact that Paul was a great master of the attack and also extraordinarily accomplished in the technique of chess, particularly of the endings. The book is not only about Keres, but also about the techniques of the attack and of endgame play. It should be of great help and interest to all students of combinatorial play and of the endgame. As an example of the first I give a Candidates' Tournament at Budapest in 1950.

White: P. Keres. Black: I. Kotov. Sicilian Defence.

1. P-K4 2. P-K3 3. P-Q4 4. P-Q5 5. P-Q6 6. P-Q7 7. P-Q8 8. P-Q9 9. P-Q10 10. P-Q11 11. P-Q12 12. P-Q13 13. P-Q14 14. P-Q15 15. P-Q16 16. P-Q17 17. P-Q18 18. P-Q19 19. P-Q20 20. P-Q21 21. P-Q22 22. P-Q23 23. P-Q24 24. P-Q25 25. P-Q26 26. P-Q27 27. P-Q28 28. P-Q29 29. P-Q30 30. P-Q31 31. P-Q32 32. P-Q33 33. P-Q34 34. P-Q35 35. P-Q36 36. P-Q37 37. P-Q38 38. P-Q39 39. P-Q40 40. P-Q41 41. P-Q42 42. P-Q43 43. P-Q44 44. P-Q45 45. P-Q46 46. P-Q47 47. P-Q48 48. P-Q49 49. P-Q50 50. P-Q51 51. P-Q52 52. P-Q53 53. P-Q54 54. P-Q55 55. P-Q56 56. P-Q57 57. P-Q58 58. P-Q59 59. P-Q60 60. P-Q61 61. P-Q62 62. P-Q63 63. P-Q64 64. P-Q65 65. P-Q66 66. P-Q67 67. P-Q68 68. P-Q69 69. P-Q70 70. P-Q71 71. P-Q72 72. P-Q73 73. P-Q74 74. P-Q75 75. P-Q76 76. P-Q77 77. P-Q78 78. P-Q79 79. P-Q80 80. P-Q81 81. P-Q82 82. P-Q83 83. P-Q84 84. P-Q85 85. P-Q86 86. P-Q87 87. P-Q88 88. P-Q89 89. P-Q90 90. P-Q91 91. P-Q92 92. P-Q93 93. P-Q94 94. P-Q95 95. P-Q96 96. P-Q97 97. P-Q98 98. P-Q99 99. P-Q100 100. P-Q101 101. 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REVIEW

Slinky rhythms from Rio and vile industrial noise

Who said that nostalgia was last year's thing? Judging by the current swing back to the musical values of bebop, beatnik and torch singers who evoke the never-had-it-so-good era, not everyone is welcoming the shock of the new with open arms.

Given the success of contemporary artists like Sade and Tracey Thorn, *The Essential Astrud Gilberto* is bound to be one of the year's *de rigueur* purchases for the "hep grooves" and sultry kittens who dictate the pace in clubland. This timely compilation, lovingly chosen and expertly sleeved, represents the epitome of a music which fused the post-bossa rhythms of Stan Getz to the nonchalant, untrained and apparently vulnerable vocal charm of Ms Gilberto.

Apart from the expected inclusions, "The Girl From Ipanema" and "Corcovado", this collection is an accurate summary of the early 1960s collaboration between the pen of Antonio Carlos Jobim (translated by Norman Gimbel) and the slinky rhythms of Joao and Astrud Gilberto, which took the team out of the Rio nightspots and into the mainstream of the American charts in 1964.

Music which has stood the test of time

What was good enough for The Beatles and Elvis Presley to flirt with then will certainly find a more lasting relationship with Working Week and Everything But The Girl, who take their inspiration from this sort of music.

The beauty of this music is that it has stood the test of time; it's a Copacabana mile away from the dread muzak of much new pop. Behind the frail, almost apologetic, phrasing of Astrud lies Getz's assertive tenor saxophone, a palette of subtle brush work, and Joao's latin guitar. The mix appeals as much in the original romances of "O Ganso" as it does in quirky covers of standard material like "Fly Me To The Moon" and "It Might As Well Be Spring".

The news that Astrud Gilberto will play here in the autumn, to a few and no doubt reverential young audience, recalls a recently heard cautionary tale. Apparently Ms Gilberto was not best pleased with the cover shot for the re-released single of "The Girl From Ipanema". "She is blonde! She looks like a common English

The Essential Astrud Gilberto (Verve)
Harold Budd/Brian Eno The Pearl (EGED 37)
Lizette Mercier Descloux (CBS 25836)
Test Dept. Beating The Retreat (Some Bizarre Test 2/3)

girl", Astrud snapped. "Everyone knows that the girl from Ipanema is tall and tan and young and lovely." *Touche*.

The Pearl is a second collaboration between American pianist Harold Budd and Brian Eno, who may fairly be said to be the ambassador for diverse cultural exchange. *Plataux of Mirror* was their first semi-ambient summit meeting. Brian Eno is a rare specimen, a workaholic of taste and originality; his background stretches from the best of music period through to David Bowie, Talking Heads, Iggy Pop and U2; we'll forget Ultravox.

But Eno has also carved out a niche with his EG Editions and related pieces (accompanying the likes of Robert Fripp, Roedelius and Jon Hassell). Here with Budd he helps to create a simple, evocative series of spare piano compositions that generally justify their dream-like titles - "Lost In The Hummingbird", "A Stream with Bright Fish", "An Echo of Night". True, the effect is almost cloying in the passive response it commands but the contemplative structures are guaranteed to soothe the savage beast. Eno fans will be pleased to hear that his *Music For Airports 2* is nearly ready for launching.

Lizette Mercier Descloux's first album for Columbia sounds almost indecently exuberant after the cool jazz of Gilberto and the refined textures of Budd/Eno. Ms Descloux is a terribly trendy young Parisian who studied at the Beaux Arts, was in on the New York New Wave and was back in time for the dawn of punk. Her press band out is gushing yet this shouldn't detract from the joyful nature of her music, recorded in Johannesburg with an excellent band of local musicians, ably shaped by English producer Adam Kidron.

Overall, the album is a splendid collision between French chic, or cheek, African highlife and a mess of rhythmic free form that zips from juju to rock to some lovely cajun atmospheres.

A record for those with catholic tastes, perhaps ranging from Clifton Chenier to Mal-

colm McLaren. Ms Descloux's efforts demand a physical response. I'm particularly struck by the dancing onomatopoeia of "Gazelles", a "Wimoweh" for the 1980s. Unfortunately the album is badly packaged, with a minimum of sleeve information and one has the feeling that CBS have no idea of the commercial time-bomb in their own catalogue. Perhaps it will fare better in Europe.

Test Dept.'s boxed set *Beating The Retreat* brings us love. This is an ugly industrial noise, wrought out of their local New Cross landscape and performed on an anonymous selection of plant hire, 50-gallon water tanks, treated tapes and crude keyboards. The effect, which is like walking across a building site in the aftermath of a holocaust, is as they say, shattering. It reflects an environment with accuracy but it only adds to the gloom.

In fact the Test Dept. experience is so existential that they can't work properly live or with a visual accompaniment. *Beating The Retreat* is likely to encourage you to turn it off. There isn't much contest between Ipanema and the Isle of Dogs.

Max Bell



Spontaneity and sheen add up to a perfect Brazilian blend

If Brazilian music really is going to catch on here it may very well begin with Gilberto Gil's "Toda Menina Baiana". Five years old, hidden away as a track on an album titled *Realce*, it has recently been discovered and diffused by zealous disc-jockeys in jazz-funk clubs, prompting WEA to release the song as a single and to re-promote its parent album.

"Toda Menina Baiana" is a summation of practically everything that is good about contemporary Brazilian pop music: all the informal lyricism of bossa nova is present in Gil's friendly voice and in the hooks which stud his delightful tune; but the music is driven by a stronger, more contemporary rhythm - expressed in a flicking acoustic guitar pattern and pattering congas - than that which attracted Stan Getz and Charlie Byrd 20 years ago.

The album is not consistently of the same standard. Recorded in Los Angeles with American session musicians augmenting Gil's regular performers on the *viola* and the *baixo*, it seems to have represented an attempt to capture a world market - just as Jorge Ben, Gil's great contemporary and the composer of "Mas Que Nada", tried to do a few years earlier in London.

Gilberto Gil Realce (WEA International 91-022)
Various That's the Way I Feel Now (A&M AMLM 2 records)
Albert King *Laundromat Blues* (Epic ED 130)

Never less than pleasant, *Realce* does contain some other highlights: the lulling charm of "Logunede", the acoustic shimmer of "Tradico" and, perhaps most, hearteningly, the title song, in which Gil and his co-arranger, Jerry Hey, prove that a half-and-half mixture of Malibu and Copacabana - spontaneity and sheen - can be made to work perfectly.

Hal Willner is the man who gave us *Amorcor Nino Rosa*, that extraordinary album in which Debbie Harry, Steve Lacy, Carla Bley and others paid tribute to the late Italian film-music composer, a couple of years ago. *That's the Way I Feel Now* is a similar and even more lavish project, in which Willner has invited musicians of various styles to express their affection for the work of the late Theolonious Monk by recording their own interpretations of his tunes.

Sadly, this time there is no Debbie Harry - but will Joe Jackson, Peter Frampton, Donald Fagen, Todd Rundgren, Dr John, Chris Spedding and the boys from Was (Not Was) do instead? They represent the rock fraternity, lining up with a list of jazz heavyweights including Lacy and Mrs Bley, Gil Evans, Johnny Griffin, Barrie Harris, Randy Weston, Elvin Jones and Charlie Rouse.

What could have been a respectfully mess turns out to be marvellously invigorating. Griffin's tenor saxophone feature on Mrs Bley's recasting of "Misterioso" vies with Was' (Not Was)'s spooky "Ba-luc. Bolivar-Ba-luc-are" and Jackson's unornamented piano-with-strings "Round Midnight" for the big band prize. Bruce Fowler's all-trombone "Theolonius", Sharon Freeman's all-French horn "Monk's Mood", Shockabilly's abstract impressionist view of "Cris-Cross" and John Zorn's cartoon of "Shuffle Boil" (played mostly with duck-calls) are fascinatingly idiosyncratic views of one man's genius.

Of the less obviously spectacular pieces, mainstream jazz listeners will be delighted by the four appearances of Lacy's soprano saxophone - duets with Gil Evans ("Bemsha Swing"), Charlie Rouse ("Ask Me Now") and Elvin Jones ("Evidence") and a solo exploration of

"Gallo's Gallop", all attesting to the depth of his dedication to the study of Monkology.

Even the least likely items - Spedding and Frampton making a rock guitar feature out of "Work", for example - are illuminated by the spirit of the enterprise, each seeming to catch some aspect of Monk's character. And when Dr John sits at the piano and takes "Blue Monk" for a stroll along the sidewalks of New Orleans, all the project's virtues are summarized.

Albert King's "Crosscut Saw", recorded in 1966 and now reissued as part of a collection of the Mississippi blues guitarist's recordings, is so powerful and vivid a performance that almost anything else heard within a day or two runs the risk of seeming lacklustre.

The magic is in the inspired juxtaposition of King's rough-hewn voice and stinging guitar style with the incomparably deft and subtle backing devised by the great Stax studio house-band of the mid-1960s - none other than Booker T and the MGs plus the Memphis Horns.

A restless tattoo of snickering rimshots

On "Crosscut Saw", therefore, we have Booker T. Jones interjecting a little Latinesque back-to-front piano phrase during the instrumental interlude. Al Jackson laying down a restless tattoo of snickering rimshots. Steve Cropper adding barely perceptible rhythm guitar scratches and Donald Dunn spacing out a cool bass line; on top of these, at the strategic moment, the trumpet and saxophones of the Memphis Horns punch out their characteristically bruising figures with a close-grained timbre and a collective phrasing so natural that the three men must have been born from the same egg.

The Memphis musicians' enthusiasm for this unusual experience spills all over the grooves of the primevally harsh "Born Under a Bad Sign", the measured "Down Don't Bother Me" and the humorous "Cold Feet"; adapting the techniques which were doing such marvellous service for Sam and Dave, Otis Redding and others, they slipped back a generation to meet King more than halfway, their sophistication suffusing his older art in such a way as to suggest how, given an accident or two, the blues might have developed.

Richard Williams

GALLERIES

Rose-coloured spectacle of the cream of Danish art

A pigeon's-eye view of the National Gallery would reveal that a new, uncontroversial extension is already in existence. One of the four internal courtyards has been half-filled by the Bernard and Mary Stanley special exhibitions room, named after its benefactors, owners of a building firm. Inside, the walls are coloured rose pink, an tasteful grey in preparation for the inaugural exhibition, which opens on Wednesday. Here the concept of gallery-within-gallery is repeated: the shows of the cream of Danish painting, listed wholesale from the Statens Museum in Copenhagen. "Nothing we wanted was refused", says Albair Smith, the exhibition organizer. "We have got the best."

Mr Smith was lyrical about Danish painting - virtually unknown outside its homeland - which he first saw in the 1970s. "It was love at first sight. The artists are as good as any working at the time," he says. Mrs Beate Sogaard, his fellow-organizer from the Statens Museum is, however, more diffident. "We're perhaps a

little nervous about the show because it is a trial", she says. "It is the first time in my generation's knowledge that we have had the paintings out to such a great and spoiled public." At home, the Danish public are asking do with secondary works from the store.

What is known in Denmark as the golden age of Danish painting took place mainly in the nineteenth century. The works represented in the exhibition date from 1767-1858. Many are of idyllic scenes - a church on the hill, a girl framed between barn doors, windmills and ships seen from afar. There are a large number of portraits, some of which are only about 10in high. Many, with dark, matt backgrounds, reveal skill and clarity of line worthy of Ingres, although the subjects are no bearded, with their long chins and ruddy faces. The pink of the gallery walls is echoed in their complexions and their clothes.

Many of the artists travelled south to study, and the exhibition represents their efforts: Eckersberg at the Villa Borghese, Rarbye at the Acropolis.

They took with them their favourite colours, and so that rosy glow appears again, now translated into the heat of the sky.

In the light of these works, it comes as a surprise that for the Danes the period was extremely troubled. They suffered repeated defeat at the hands of the British (for example in 1801 when Nelson destroyed their fleet at Copenhagen) and were constantly at loggerheads with Sweden. After the Napoleonic war, when the price of corn plummeted, there was great poverty and distress. The scenes the Danish artists were painting were often utopian.

The exhibition is being sponsored by Carlsberg, which is advertising it on beer mats in pubs throughout London. The firm is obviously hoping drinkers will view the prospect of a visit to the National Gallery in a suitably rosy light.

Sarah Jane Checkland

"Danish Painting: The Golden Age" opens at the National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2, (839 3321) on Wed. Until Nov 20, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm.

Openings

THE AGE OF VERMEER AND DE HOOCH: Major exhibition of fine seventeenth-century genre paintings which reflect a time of a great artistic production in Holland. Lunchtime lectures and evening concerts have been in association with the exhibition. The Royal Academy, Piccadilly, London W1 (734 9052). Opens Fri. Until Nov 18, daily 10am-6pm.

GETTING LONDON IN PERSPECTIVE: All about the work of artists long neglected and now being superseded by the computer: the creators of the architectural perspective. More than 200 line drawings, watercolours and computer representations of London from 1702 to 1984 are on show. Barbican Art Gallery, Silk Street, London EC2 (838 4141). Opens Thurs. Until Oct 28, Tues-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun noon-6pm.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE SCULPTURE FROM THE BODY? Work of work by sculptors who represent the body primarily through the medium of welded and forged steel. Thirteen artists are represented, all associated with St Martin's School of Art, including Gillian Brent, Katherine Gill and Anthony Smart. Tate Gallery, Millbank (821 1313). Opens Mon. Until Oct 14, Mon-Sat 10am-6.30pm, Sun 2-5.30pm.

HENRY MOORE DRAWINGS 1973-1983: Loan exhibition in conjunction with Henry Moore

Foundation of more than 50 works on paper executed over the last five years. Includes cloud and sheep studies, rock formations and the inevitable quote of humans. Marlborough Fine Art, 8 Albemarle Street, London W1 (629 5161). Opens Wed. Until Oct 19, Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-12.30pm.

THE PROBLEMS OF PICTURING: Strange negative title for exhibition of new work chosen by *Time Out* art critic Sarah Kent. Artists include Lisa Milroy (painter of everyday things like records and gloves), Amekem Toren (who paints haunting grey letter forms) and Nigel Gill (whose works are in Kent's words, "poetic yet political, combining for example a fighter plane with Mother's Pride"). Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (402 5075). Opens today. Until Sept 30, daily 10am-6pm.

Selected

AUTUMN EXHIBITION The Royal Society of Painter-Etchers and Engravers, Bankside Gallery, 48 Hopton Street, Blackfriars, London SE1 (928 7521). Until Sept 23, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm. Work which varies in style from the twee to the sophisticated, from the generalized to the minute detail of David Wicks, who etches the Bank of England notes. Also on show is a retrospective of work by Edward Bawden, an honorary fellow of the society since the 1960s. Includes eight charming litho-cuts of Aesop's fables.

BETWEEN OURSELVES The ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (930 0483). Until Sept 16, Tues-Sat noon-9pm. Final stop in an ICA gallery touring exhibition in which Rosé Garrard, women-for-all-seasons (performance artist, sculptor, painter and installation maker), uses existing works of art to call attention to her preoccupation with women and women's roles.

ROCCOCO Victoria and Albert (589 6371). Until Sept 30, Mon-Thurs and Sat 10am-5.15pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm. An inspired exhibition, putting paid to any assumption that rococo equals "oppressively ornate". With a partial reconstruction of the Vauxhall pleasure gardens as the centrepiece, the paintings, sculpture, porcelain and silverwork on show are as exuberant yet as delicate as Handel's music, which is played in the background.

CREATION: MODERN ART AND NATURE Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Belford Road, Edinburgh (031 556 8921). Until mid-Sept, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm. This splendidly ambitious inaugural exhibition for the new Scottish Gallery of Modern Art includes 170 examples of how twentieth-century artists have dealt with the biggest subject of all. Includes the all-encompassing abstracts of Barnett Newman which attempt to capture the universal, and the minute characterization of a human being, by Stanley Spencer.

Photography

ANSEL ADAMS 1902-1984 Henry Cole Wing, Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, London SW7 (01-589 6371). Until Sept 19, Mon-Thurs 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.30pm. A short lacuna between major shows at the V&A has allowed Mark Haworth-Booth to pull together a tribute to Adams from the museum's collection. Adams, who died recently, was one of the finest landscape photographers of the century. His work chronicles the grand, yet intimate, beauty of the American terrain in a way that will not easily be surpassed.

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THE NUDE Open Eye Gallery, 90-92 Whitechapel, Liverpool (051-708 9480). Until Sept 22, Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm. An exhibition made up mainly of contemporary work which seeks to explore photography of the human body in a way that is freed from traditional forms.

ROBERT DOISNEAU/AUGUST SANDER Cambridge Darkroom, Dales Brewery, Gwydd Street, Cambridge (0223 350725). Until Sept 16, Tues-Sun noon-6pm. Doisneau and Sander have pursued similar objectives - one through the heart, the other through the mind. Doisneau's scenes of street life in Paris have a passionate, compulsive quality while Sander's portraits of German people is altogether more rigorous, scientific and dispassionate.

ALFRED STEIGLITZ Stills Gallery, 105 High Street, Edinburgh (031 557 1140). Until Sept 15, Tues-Sat 12.30-6pm. Retrospective of work by Steiglitiz (1864-1946) which dwells on his pictures of New York at the turn of the century.

ALFRED EISENSTAEDT English Speaking Union, 22 Atholl Crescent, Edinburgh (031 225 1529). Ends today, 10am-5pm. "Aberdeen: Port of a City" is a reportage on the city by Eisenstaedt, who worked there for two weeks in 1983 at the age of 86. Remarkable images from a man who has devoted his life to photography.

SNAP, RAZZLE AND POP Upper Gallery, ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (930 0493). Until Sept 16, Tues-Sun, noon-5pm. A comprehensive show covering the world of pop and its attendant culture from 1955 to 1983. Harry Hammond was snapping Bill Haley in the 1950s in a straightforward, no-nonsense way while today's images are altogether more sophisticated, such as Brian Griffin's creations for various record covers.

MANUEL ALVAREZ BRAVO Museum of Modern Art, 30 Pembroke Street, Oxford (0865 722733). Until Sept 30, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm. Gentle and deeply exploratory pictures by little-known Mexican



Grand vision: American photographer Ansel Adams. Photograph by Manuel Alvarez Bravo of his native land. Landscape, buildings, people and objects are often used as symbols in a dissertation on mankind's fate.

BLACK AND WHITE MEMORIES National Museum of Photography, Prince's Consort, 100 Whitehall, York (0274 732277). Until Sept 23, Tues-Sat noon-8pm, Sun 2.30-6pm. Portraits and fashion photography from 1948 to 1989 by David Bailey, whose name is now synonymous with the swinging sixties. Bailey's work has always possessed a natural flair for innovation and his fashion photographs, from either on the streets of New York or the studio, are inhabited by models who seem to be real people. His portraits of the rich and famous, although aggressively eclectic, never fail to demand attention.

BRITAIN IN 1984 National Museum of Photography. Details as above. Various aspects of life in Britain photographed by Don McCullin, Ian Berry, Ragbir Singh, John Davies and Paul Graham. The most interesting pictures are from McCullin's series on the run-down area of Spitalfields in London. He spent weeks patiently gaining the trust of the down-and-outs whom he photographed with great humility and understanding.

LIVES OF THE SAINTS Chapter Arts, Market Road, Canton, Cardiff (0222 396061). Ends today, noon-4pm. Sensitive documentary photographs by Roy Condon and Stuart Mackay of the islanders of St Helena in the south Atlantic, whose isolation has produced a distinctive and individual culture.

Michael Young



Today's complexion from a golden age: Left to right: Portrait of Elise Kobke by Constantin Hansen; C. W. Eckersberg's Beila and Hanna Nathanson; and Hansen's Portrait of a Lady

TELEVISION

Why reminder of a crushed rebellion

The Russian tanks that rolled into Prague in August 1968 not only signalled the end of Czechoslovakia's bid for political freedom but cut off in its prime a remarkable flowering of the Czech cinema.

Among the several "new waves" of the 1960s - the French cinema had one and so, to a way, did the British - the Czech was the least expected and, coming after years of cultural conformity, the most refreshing.

Not that the typical products were necessarily critical of the communist regime. Rather, they tended to: by-pass politics, and concentrate on the more durable theme of human relationships, observed with a keen, mildly satirical eye.

The young film-makers who emerged during this period included Milos Forman, who made *A Woman in Love* and *A Woman's Ball*, Ivan Passer, director of *Intimate Lighting*, and Jiri Menzel, whose first full feature, *Closely Observed Trains*, won the 1976 Oscar for best foreign language film.

The Russian invasion, which led to tighter censorship, effectively imposed the choice of exile or inactivity. Forman established a new career in the United States with *Taking Off* and *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. Passer went with him, eventually making the excellent *China's Man*.

Jiri Menzel was one of those who stayed. Born in 1938, he had been a graduate of the Czech Film School and assistant to one of the new-wave pioneers, Vera Chytilova. *Closely Observed Trains*, which charted the experiences of a young railway worker at a country station during the Second World War, was followed by an arguably even better film, *Cupcakes*.

That was virtually the last the West heard of Menzel for more

Films on TV

than a decade. His 1969 picture *Larks on a String* was banned by the authorities and it was several years before he worked in the cinema again. By the time his 1980 film *Cutting It Short* was shown at the London Film Festival, Menzel was merely a name in the history books.

Though well received, *Cutting It Short* was surprisingly not given a cinema release here, and tonight's showing on BBC2 (9.25-11pm) is not only a television first but, for all except the few hundred who saw it at the National Film Theatre, the film's British premiere.

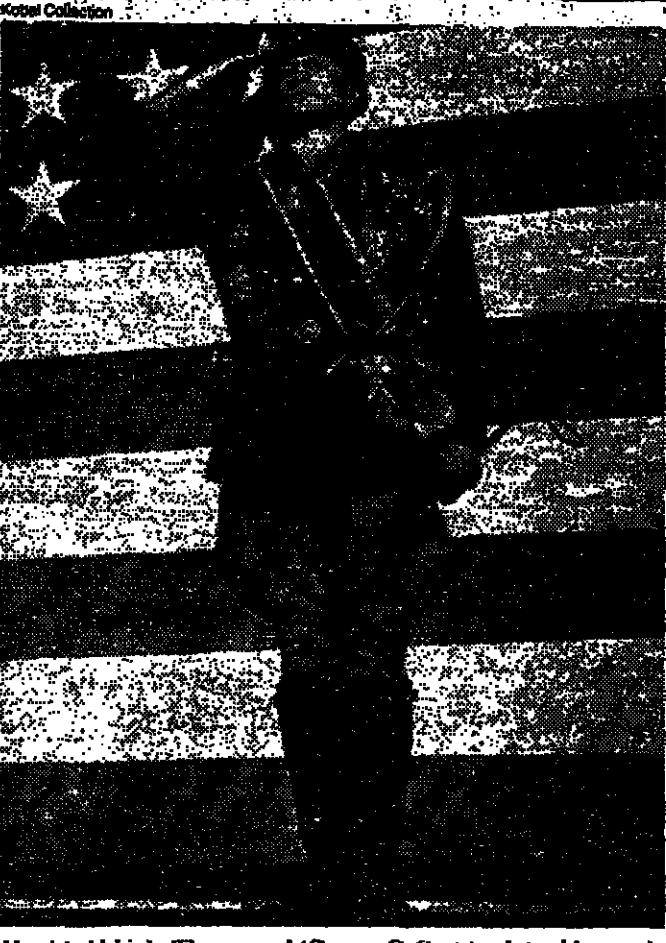
Written by Bohumil Hrabal (who also scripted *Closely Observed Trains*), *Cutting It Short* sees Menzel happily back in the genre he exploited so fruitfully before 1968: the comedy of human foibles.

Set in a small Czech town in the 1920s, the film revolves round Marja, a glamorous and sensual blonde married to the manager of the local brewery. He is dutiful but dull and when his boisterous brother comes to stay with them, Marja discovers a kindred spirit.

They embark on a series of mad adventures, which come abruptly to an end when Marja breaks her ankle. As she recovers she gets caught up in the sudden craze for shortening things - moustaches, skirts, table legs - and her waist-length hair gives way to a neat bob.

Cutting It Short is a film about rebellion and reconciliation, Chekhovian in its wit, affectionate dissection of mood and character. It is a reminder of how much was lost in the Czech cinema when the Russians decided that enough was enough.

Peter Waymark



Head held high: The general (George C. Scott) salutes his men in Patton - Lust for Glory (BBC1, tonight)

Also recommended

Patton - Lust for Glory (1969): Stirring biopic of the controversial Second World War general, with excellent battle sequences and a masterly performance from George C. Scott which won him an Oscar. He refused to accept (BBC1, today, 8.55-11.40pm).

Rio Grande (1960): John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara lead the John Ford cavalry Western set on the Mexican border in the 1880s: typical Fordian mix of knobkabout and sentimentality (BBC1, tomorrow, 2.15-4pm).

The Best Man (1964): Henry Fonda and Cliff Robertson as rivals for the Presidential nomination in one of the best films about American politics, adapted by Gore Vidal from his Broadway play and directed by Franklin (Patton) Schaffner (Channel 4, tomorrow, 10.15pm-12.05am).

The Assassination of Trotsky (1972): The tribute to Richard Burton continues with one of his more unlikely roles, as the Russian revolutionary meeting a violent end in Mexico: directed by another recently departed figure, Joseph Losey (BBC2, tomorrow, 10.25pm-12.05am).

I Live in Grosvenor Square (1945): First in a season of Anna Neagle films, anticipating the celebration of her eightieth birthday in October: it has Neagle involved in a romantic triangle with Rex Harrison and American Air Force sergeant Dean Jagger (BBC2, Mon, 6-7.50pm).

Billy Liar (1963): Splendid comic performance by Tom Courtenay as the North Country underdog's clerk living in a world of fantasy: the film that launched Julie Christie (BBC2, Thurs, 6-7.35pm).

First British television showing

Programme choice

THE LATE, LATE BREAKFAST SHOW: Returns for a new series under the genial guidance of Noel Edmonds. This edition is all about trying to break records for crossing the English Channel, whether by hovercraft, ferry, waterskis, jetskis, kayak or speedboat: and to mark the seventy-fifth anniversary of the first flight across the Channel, an aerobatics team will make the trip upside down. BBC1, today, 5.50-6.40pm.

JULIET BRAVO: Anna Cartaret as Inspector Kate Longton, back on duty at Harley police station in the well established successor to *Dixon of Dock Green*. In this one she is trying to find out who knifed a 21-year-old girl on her way to work along a deserted footpath. BBC1, today, 7.10-8pm.

J. B. PRIESTLEY: Two programmes this weekend. Remember the astonishingly prolific man of English letters, who died last month at the age of 88. Priestley is introduced by Robert Robinson and includes contributions from Angus Wilson, Malcolm Muggeridge, Michael Foot, Beryl Bainbridge and Priestley's widow, Jacquetta Hawkes (BBC1, today, 8-8.55pm; while *Time and the Tides* features an interview between the writer and his son, Tom, on all TV regions, tomorrow, 10.15-11.15pm).

MASTER OF THE GAME: The BBC should do its ratings a bit of good with this eight-hour adaptation of Sidney Sheldon's best-selling family saga based on the South African diamond industry. Bryan Cranston, ageing from 18-30, heads the cast. BBC1, tomorrow, 7.15-9.30pm; Mon 8.05-9pm, 9.25-10.45pm; final part on Sept 9.

THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS: A chance to catch the performance of Sir Edward Elgar's great choral work which inspired the 1984 Three Choirs Festival in Worcester Cathedral. With Janet Baker, Stuart Burrows, Benjamin Luxon and the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra. BBC2, tomorrow, 7.15-9.15pm; also on Radio-3 in stereo.

THE SIX O'CLOCK NEWS: Attempt to fill the BBC's early evening news slot, displaced by the premisses demise of *Six Minutes*. Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell present a half-hour programme, from Mon to Fri, followed by regional news magazines. BBC1, 6-6.30pm.



Smile please: Ronnie Barker and friends in a new comedy series, The Magnificent Evans (BBC1, Thurs)

LIBERATION: The story of the liberation of Brussels from the Germans 40 years ago. It is told by people who witnessed the events and, even more graphically, with black and white films shot by Belgian home movie makers; much of the footage is being shown in public for the first time. BBC2, Mon, 8.15-9pm.

JANE IN THE DESERT: New series of adventures featuring the comic strip heroine, once more shedding her clothes to help the Allied war effort. As before, it is an ingenious mix of live actors and animation, with Glynn Barber as Jane and Max Wall as Tombs. Five episodes, starting on BBC 2 on Mon, 9-9.10pm.

THE LENNY HENRY SHOW: The engaging and talented black comedian from *Three of a Kind* gets his own programme, in which he moves away from 10-second

recalled by surviving members in eight programmes, which use rare archive film and many unpublished photographs. BBC1, Tues, 9.25-10.20pm.

HOW THE MYTH WAS MADE: It is 50 years since the distinguished documentary film maker, Robert Flaherty, produced *Man of Aran*, an account of life on the Isle of Aran off the west coast of Ireland. George Stoney revisited the locations for Flaherty's film and talked to some of the people who appeared in it. BBC2, Tues, 9.40-10.35pm.

THE RISE AND FALL OF KING COTTON: In India cotton has been spun and woven for thousands of years; in the United States a slave society was created to produce it; in Britain it helped to foster the industrial revolution. The worldwide story of this influential crop is told in six films by Anthony Burton. BBC2, Wed, 7.15-7.45pm.

MINDER: A welcome return for one of the most pungently written and best acted series on television, with George Cole as the indestructible con-man, Arthur Daley, and Dennis Waterman as his put-upon sidekick, Terry McCann. In the opening programme, *Goodbye Sailor*, Arthur is implicated in the theft of 1,500 pairs of expensive sports shoes. All TV regions, Wed, 9-10pm.

GLORIANA: Benjamin Britten's dramatic opera, originally written to commemorate the Coronation in 1953, launches a new arts season on Channel 4. This is the acclaimed production by the English National Opera, introduced by its managing director, Lord Harewood. The part of Queen Elizabeth I is sung by Sarah Walker and Anthony Rolfe Johnson is the Earl of Essex. Channel 4, Wed, 9.15pm-12.10am.

THE MAGNIFICENT EVANS: New comedy series by Roy Clarke (*Last of the Summer Wine*, *Open All Hours*) set in a small Welsh village and starring Glynn Barber as a bumbast photographer and antique dealer, Plantagenet Evans. Sharon Morgan plays Rachel, who lives with Evans but cannot get him to marry her. BBC1, Thurs, 8-8.30pm.

BIRD OF PREY 2: Civil servant Henry Jay renewing battle with the multinational crime syndicate, Le Paveur. In Tom Hudson's new four-part thriller about computer fraud, The 18-stone actor, Richard Griffiths, again plays Henry, with Carole Ann Simons as his wife. BBC1, Thurs, 9.25-10.15pm.

CONCERTS

SACRED AND PROFANE
Tonight, 11am, Queen's Hall, South Clerk Street, Edinburgh (031-225 5758). Debussy's *Jeune Fille de Danse* begins this concert by the Jan Latham-Koenig Ensemble conducted by Jan Latham-Koenig. Later come Messiaen's *Petites Symphonies*, and works by Jonathan Harvey, Rupert Nicholas and David Baldwin. In the evening, at 8pm in the Usher Hall, the Edinburgh Festival comes to an end with Debussy's *Mass of Life* performed by the Scottish National Orchestra, Edinburgh Festival Chorus and soloists under Sir Charles Mackerras.

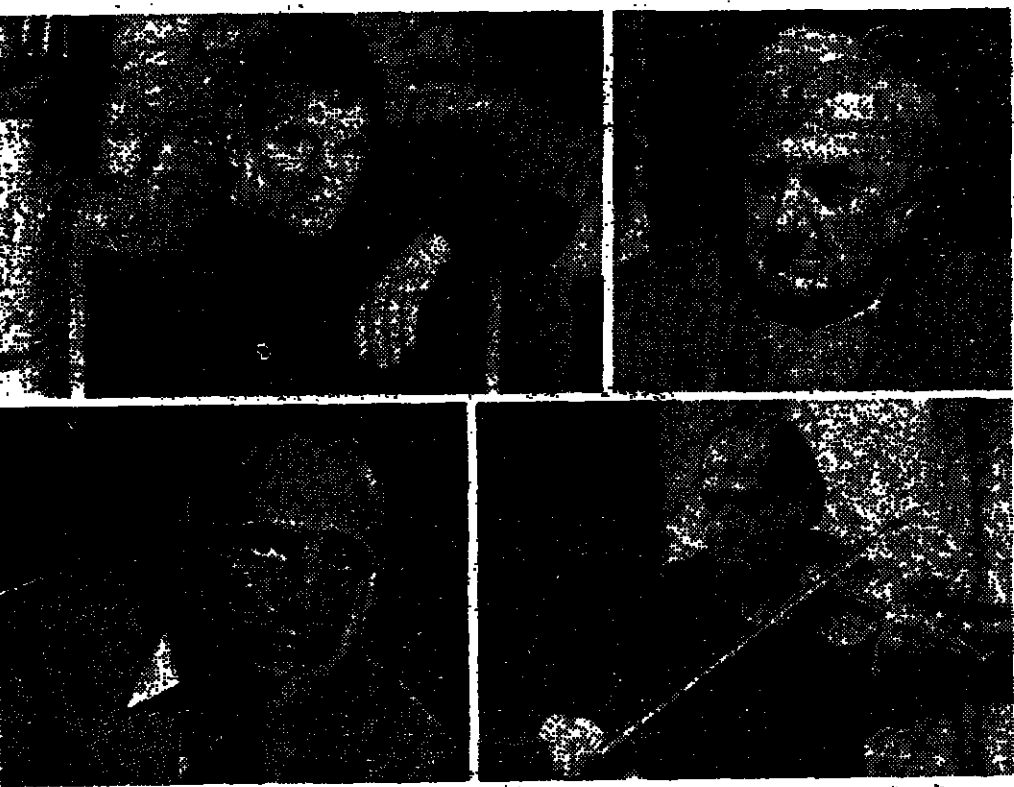
SCHUBERT, BEETHOVEN
Today, 7.30pm, Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (589 8212, credit cards 589 9465). Gunter Wand conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra in Schubert's Symphony No. 5 and Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 "Eroica".

RUGGIERO RICCI
Today, 7.30pm, The Maltings, Snape, Suffolk (072 885 3543). The great violinist Ruggiero Ricci opens Snape's autumn celebrity series with sonatas by Bach, Beethoven, Debussy, Vivaldi, and Nielsen's remarkable transcription of Liszt's *Mezzogiorno Waltz* No. 1.

ALICIA DE LARROCHA
Today, 7.30pm, Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (835 2147). Alicia de Larrocha kicks off the Wigmore Hall's 1984-85 season with what should be a memorable piano recital: Granados's *Escenas Romanticas*, Falla's *Fantasia Basca*, Schumann's *Fantasia Op. 12*.

ITALIAN STRAW HAT
Tomorrow, 7.15pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Belvedere Road, South Bank, London SE1 (828 3191, credit cards 828 8800). René Clair's silent film, *An Italian Straw Hat*, is shown with a new accompaniment composed by Benedict Mason and played here by an apparently anonymous orchestra conducted by Alan Farnock. Also included is Clair's *Entr'acte* for Sato's ballet, *Feliche*, with Sato's original music.

YOYNA
Tomorrow, 8pm, Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London SW1 (830 3477). The programme of the Musica avant garde series begins with Suoran giving the London premiere of Duvall's *Yoyi Na*. They follow it with the world premiere of Hogg's *John Barter*, Smyth's



Famous four (Clockwise from top left): composers Peter Maxwell Davies and Ralph Vaughan Williams; violinist Ruggiero Ricci and film director René Clair

Irish Folk and, perhaps the most exciting of all, a new piece, as yet unnamed, by Simon Waters.

SEA SYMPHONY, WHALE
Mon, 7.30pm, Royal Albert Hall. Conducted by Richard Hickox, the London Symphony Orchestra, Woburn Singers and soloists perform Vaughan Williams's *Sea Symphony* (No. 1) and John Tavener's *The Whale*, large canvases both.

POPULAR CLASSICS
Mon, 8pm, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (628 8795, credit cards 628 8891). The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra fields a set of very familiar items: Smetana's *Bartered Bride* (Overture, Bizet's *Carmen Suite*, Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto (soloist, Leland Chen) and *Capriccio Italian*, Liszt's *Scherzo* (Philip Carron, piano), and even Ravel's *Bolero*.

ISLE OF THE DEAD
Tues, 7.30pm, Royal Albert Hall. The melodious, artfully varied, gloom of Rachmaninov's *Isle of the Dead* should form a curious prelude to Thea Musgrave's *Clarinet Concerto* (Michael Collins,

ROCK & JAZZ

MARIA MULDAUR
Tonight and Mon to Sat, Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Frith Street, London W1 (439 0747). Still best remembered for the "cherry" nightclub at the Oasis' a decade back, but her new album *Sweet and Slow*, on the Spindrift label - artfully divides itself between barrel-house blues, with a rhythm section led by Mac Rebennack and silky ballads delicately manipulated by a team under Kenny Barron. For her season on Frith Street, Miss Muldaur imports a crew including the former Eagle Bernie Leadon and the stage guitarist Al Perkins, once of Steve Niles's Menasas and the later Flying Burrito Brothers.

JETHRO TULL
Tonight, Glasgow Apollo (041 332 5221); tomorrow, Newcastle City Hall (0632 20007); Mon/Tues, Manchester Apollo (061 273 1112); Thurs, NEC, Birmingham (021 780 8161); Fri to Sat, Hammersmith, London (0748 4081). Just what the pop scene has been missing in these drab days of paranoiac T-shirt graffiti, *Smash* (filmed paranoiac cocktails: a one-legged tube-player with an abandoned bird's nest on his head, Ian Anderson, for it is he, returns to relive the gold-record days of *Aqualung* and *Passion Play* in the company of his old comrades Martin Barre (guitar) and Dave Pegg (bass).

SIONED WILLIAMS
Thurs, 7.30pm, Sutton Place, near Guildford, Surrey (0483 504455). On her harp, Sioned Williams plays Parry's *Or Variations* based on *Shenkin Variations*, Khachaturian's *Dance Orientale*, a Sonata by Krumpoltz, a Sarabande by Damascus, a Serenade of her own, and a Fanfare and Joyous Fantasia by John Thomas.

SCHUTZ'S TIMES
Thurs, 7.30pm, Wigmore Hall. The opening concert of the Wigmore's Early Music and Baroque series, called "Heinrich Schutz and His Times 1585-1672", finds Music Antiqua Cologne unearthing pieces by Pachelbel, Buxtehude, Witeke and Krieger as well as Schutz himself.

LYRICAL ZEMSKY
Fri, 7.30pm, Royal Albert Hall. Alban Berg praised Zemsky's music for its melodiousness, and the Lyric Symphony is performed by the BBC Symphony Orchestra and soloists under Dennis Russell Davies. But before that Richard Strauss's *Don Juan* is heard, and Philip Fowkes solos in Ravel's G major Concerto.

ARENA, Empire Way, Wembley, Middlesex (902 1234)
Freddie Mercury and his pals return to try with the affections of an impressive audience - who will, one hopes, perceive the irony in Queen's stage show, which appears to have been designed by Albert Speer and directed by Leni Riefenstahl.

CLARK SISTERS
Tonight, Dominion Theatre, Tottenham Court Road, London W1 (580 9562). The huge upsurge of interest in black American gospel music has brought this duo, reputed to be among the best of current performers, across the Atlantic. The London Community Gospel Choir also appear.

IMPROVISED MUSIC FESTIVAL
Tonight/tomorrow, Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191). Messages from the post-jazz frontier continue tonight with the group Contradictions (including the singer Maggie Nichols and the reedsman Lindsay Cooper) and the solo pianist Mervyn Africa. Tomorrow afternoon (2.45pm) Trevor Watts, the marvelously expressive saxophonist, plays duets with the pianist Verran Weston. Alan Tomlinson performs his elapstick trombone solos and the group British Summertime also appear. Tomorrow night (7pm) there is a summit meeting between Evan Parker, Barry Guy, Eddie Prevost and Keith Rowe - the sort of line-up associated with the legendary Little Theatre Club in the early days of the British free improvisation movement.

RALPH McTELL
Tonight, Poole Arts Centre (0282 685222); tomorrow, Athenaeum Theatre, Plymouth (0752 265079); Mon, Guildford, Surrey (0735 794545); Tues, Brewhouse Theatre, Taunton (0823 832444); Wed, Gloucester Leisure Centre (0452 367788); Thurs, Johnsson Hall, Yeovil (0953 228844); Fri, Orchard Theatre, Dordrecht (0622 77351). The likeable "Stars of London" man takes to the beaches.

BASS CLEF
From tonight, 35 Coronet Street, Hoxton Square, London N1 (728 2476). Peter Ind - bassist, recording engineer, former student and partner of the late Lennie Tristano - deserves every success for the jazz club which he is opening tonight in the premises which also house his Wave Studio. Perhaps it is a good omen that the inaugural sounds will be played by the quintet of Ronnie Scott. A series of future programming can be gained from these selections from the first week: tomorrow night, the saxophonists Bobby Wellins and Stan Robinson with the Mike Carr Trio; Wed, the excellent Terry Jenkins Trio; Thurs, the Chas Burchell Quintet; and Fri, the London School of Samba.

DR JOHN
Tomorrow, Clapham Common Bandstand, London SW4 (Inquiries: 622 6655 ext 381). Lambeth Council does its bit for the bass with a free concert from 2-6pm featuring the great New Orleans pianist Mac Rebennack, also known as Dr John, and his British accompanists, Diz and the Doomen.

TOMMY SMITH
Mon, 100 Club, 100 Oxford Street, London W1 (536 0933). The precocious Scottish saxophonist is still in his teens and studying at Berklee College in the United States, turns up with Bill Kyle, a veteran Scottish drummer, and three young musicians from New York.

MUSIC FOR THE MINERS
Mon to Fri, Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (828 3191). Loudon Wainwright III, Alexei Sayle and Rik Mayall open this short benefit season on Mon. The folkies - Dave Swarbrick, Bert Jansch and Lindisfarne's Alan Hull - take over on Tues, followed by reggae - Misty In Roots and others - on Wed. On Thurs come Van Morrison, Christy Moore (late of Planets and Moving Hearts) and guests. Sayle and Mayall return for Fri's gala, accompanied by none other than Wham, Style Council's Paul Weller and Mick Talbot, and Nigel "Neil" Planer.

SISTER SLEDGE
Wed, Oxford Apollo (0865 243041); Fri, Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham (0602 472328). The only current rivals to the Pointer Sisters' pop-soul supremacy, with a reissue of the glorious "Lost in Music" back in the charts.

NICO/JOHN COOPER CLARKE
Thurs, Dingwalls, Camden Lock, London NW1 (287 4867). For collectors of bizarre mismatched bills, here is a minor classic.



Varied talents: Ralph McTell, going on tour, Alexei Sayle, joking for the miners, and Maria Muldaur, pouring her heart out

OPERA



Tried and tested: Della Jones slugs Rosina in the English National Opera's Barber of Seville

Something old, something new

While in general the English National Opera's current season is very much one of new productions, this week sees a couple of notable revivals. On Thursday *The Barber of Seville* bounces back into town. It is a revival which has stood the test of time well enough when lifted by the panache of individual performances. This time, Alan Opie repeats his Figaro, John Brecknock is the Count Almaviva, Della Jones is Rosina, and Wynn Davies conducts.

The other revival this week is David Pountney's 1982 *Flying Dutchman* (tonight, Tues and Fri), with a pre-performance talk on Fri at 6pm in the Friends Meeting House, just 100 yards away from the Coliseum. Neil Howlett, highly praised by Paul Griffiths on the Arts Page this week, takes the title role for the first time opposite Josephine Barstov's Senta.

The central revolve for the *Dutchman* is, economically,

being used for a new production: *Osud*, Janáček's psychological thriller which is being staged for the first time in Britain, also by David Pountney. A short, dense work, it will be presented with the Weill/Brecht *Mahagonny Songs*. The double bill opens on Sept 8 with further performances on Sept 11, 13, 21, 25 and 29.

For the forthcoming new production of *Madam Butterfly*, ENO have decided to review Puccini in a new light and dispense with their old staging. John Mazzero, who gave *Mad Butterfly* a fine *Butterfly* with the Royal Opera, returns to the Coliseum to conduct until October 20. The run starts on September 27.

Before the return of *Rusalka* and *Così fan tutte* in November, there are further chances to see Massenet's *Manon* between October 6 and November 2. John Copley's picturesque production returns to the repertory with Canadian Frances Giner

making her English debut in the title role and with Anthony Rolfe Johnson as Des Grieux - his first time in the part. More unexpected opportunities, too, to see *Arabella* and *Patience*: they are being scheduled in place of the proposed new production of *Orpheus in the Underworld*, now postponed to give more time for preparation.

All these performances start at 7.30pm at the Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (836 3161), and there are pre-performance talks for both *Osud* (Sept 21) and *Butterfly* (Oct 4). Further information on these and other operas in the 1984-5 repertory, together with a valuable compendium of new libretto translations and introductions to the operas, are to be found in *The ENO Season Book*, £3 (+50p p & p) from The Coliseum Shop, 31 St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (240 6270).

DANCE

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE
Covent Garden, London WC1 (240 1066) Tonight, Tues and Fri at 7.30pm. Andrei Serban's new production of *Turandot* opens tonight with Gwyneth Jones in the title role for this week only. (Shena Dimitrova takes over from Sept 11. Colin Davis conducts tonight and on Tues (John Barker on Fri) and Plácido Domingo is the Calaf (Ernesto Veronelli on Fri).

SCOTTISH OPERA
Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041-3322 3321) Wed at 7.15pm and Sept 8 at 2.15pm. Scottish Opera return to Glasgow to start their new season with *Idilio*.

WELSH NATIONAL OPERA
Theatre, John Street, Cardiff. (0222 489977). The season in Wales begins with two nicely contrasted productions: the restlessly merry *Mary Widow* in which Busby Berkeley tries to join hands with Lehar (Thurs, 7.15pm); and *Marturli's Greek Passion* (Sept 8).

DORSET OPERA
Sherborne School Hall, Sherborne, Dorset (0835 812814) Tonight and tomorrow at 7pm. Dorset Opera celebrates its tenth anniversary with a strong production of Verdi's *Don Carlos*.

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET
Cambridge, The Big Top on Jesus Green. Advance booking at the Central Library, Lion Yard (0223 357851). Opens Mon, until Sept 22. Mon-Sat at 7.30pm, matinees Wed and Sat at 2.30pm. The new season opens in the circus tent Big Top, celebrating its tenth year of ballet seasons. *Swan Lake* comes first, danced by Marion Tait (Mon), Galina Samsova (Thurs and Thurs), Margaret Barblen (Wed matinee) and Sherrilyn Kennedy (Wed eve). Fri brings *Petrushka* with David Bintley in the title part, Jennifer Jackson's *Common Ground* and Kenneth Macmillan's *Elke Syncopations*.

RAMBERT WORKSHOPS
The Place, 17 Duke's Road, London WC1 (387 0031). Opens Mon at 8pm. Until Sept 8. Seven dancers of Ballet Rambert have made their own works for presentation in this short season, to be performed by themselves and their colleagues. Expect apprentice standards - but hope for the first glimpse of new talent.

Concerts: Max Harrison; Rock & Jazz: Richard Williams; Dance: John Percival

THE WEEK

Radio

ERDI COMPLETE: For the first time Radio 3 is broadcasting all 26 years of Verdi. They are being shown in chronological order, every Saturday afternoon through the summer and winter. The most popular come up over the Christmas period - *Rigoletto* (Dec 3), *La Traviata* (Dec 20) and *Il Trovatore* (Dec 22) - and there will be one, a reshaped version of *I Lombardi* called *Jerusalem*, which has not been heard in Britain before. The series opens with a new BBC recording of the earliest opera, *Oberto*, Radio 3, today, 2-4.20 pm.

ARDY'S WESSEX: The first of three radio journeys through the countryside which so inspired Thomas Hardy. The series was recorded entirely on location, in Wessex, and tries to capture the landscape and life of Wessex. Nigel Rock plays Hardy and the programmes are introduced by Desmond Hawkins. Radio 4, tomorrow, 10.15-11 pm; repeated Fri 11 am.

UNDER MILK WOOD: A repeat of Douglas Cleverdon's famous 1963 production of Dylan Thomas's play of voices, in tribute to the late Richard Burton who narrated. The cast includes Hugh Griffith and Jeremy Jones. Radio 4, Mon, 7.50-9.35 pm.



Nettlesome machines: Jaguar D type at Brighton speed trials in 1954 - see them racing at Donington Park today; and the Firecracker, one of many aircraft on display at Farnborough (see Other events)

THE MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF MABEL GREENWOOD: An investigation by Roger Worsley into a celebrated Welsh murder that took place in 1919. Mabel Greenwood, a solicitor's wife from Kildesley, died suddenly and when her body was exhumed after nine months of village gossip it was found to contain traces of arsenic. Her husband was charged with murder but eventually cleared. Worsley reconstructs the case and puts forward a new theory about how Mabel died. Radio 4, Wed, 4.02-4.40 pm.

BRIERS ON HANCOCK: Richard Briars leads a tribute to Tony Hancock, who would have been 60 this year. Briars traces the comedian's early career, the years of success on radio and television and the lonely suicide in June 1958. Radio 4, Wed, 6.30-7 pm.

Auctions

NOSTALGIA ON WHEELS: Transport freaks plan an away-day at Phillips. Vintage Hornby is the cream of a huge collection of model railways. Traction engine models are in the £1,000-£2,000 class. Newest collector find is old railway tickets, and an early platform ticket is estimated at £200. There are Dinky Toy cars and planes, tinplate liners and U-boats - even a Carr's biscuit tin of 1920 (£250) comes bus-stopped. Phillips, Blenheim Street, London W1 (E29 6E2). Viewing Tue 9am-5pm, Wed 9-11am. Sale Wed 11am.

STAR SIGNS: Signed photographs of Laurel and Hardy (£50-£70) and Marlene Dietrich (£30-£50) are among the choice items in a sale of printed ephemera that also includes autographed postcards and photographs of Bette Davis, Gary Cooper and Ingrid Bergman; cigarette cards; Donald McGill comic postcards; posters; and a 1911 Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (S81 2ZT). Viewing Thurs 9am-4.30pm, Fri 9am-noon. Sale Fri 2pm.



Country cottage: The birthplace of Thomas Hardy (see Radio)

FILMS

The funny, peculiar business of remakes

Until recently, Hollywood happily remade epics, melodramas and choice thrillers; comedies, however, it left alone - mindful perhaps of the problems in lifting one decade's gags and comic obsessions into another. Not any more. Next week sees the British release of *Unfaithfully Yours*, previously made by the great Preston Sturges in 1948. Another idiosyncratic 1940s comedy, Lubich's *To Be Or Not To Be*, emerged earlier in the year as a Mel Brooks vehicle.

Foreign films are also being pressed into service: *Blame It On Rio*, released a few weeks ago, pinched its plot from a droopy French comedy by Claude Berr; Blake Edwards's *The Man Who Loved Women*, which came and went in London cinemas like an April shower, drew on Truffaut's chauvinist romp of 1977. It is a strange development, for none of the remakes ever seem to hit the box-office jackpot.

Director Howard Zieff remains moderately true to the



Out for revenge: Suspicious husband Dudley Moore

material of *Unfaithfully Yours* - written, produced and directed by Sturges when his meteoric career was just beginning its decline. The original film recounts the adventures of a British conductor, Sir Alfred de Carter (Rex Harrison, smooth as silk), wrongly convinced that his wife (Linda Darnell) is unfaithful. During a concert of Rossini, Wagner and Tchaikovsky, he conceals three plans of action (murder, a duel, and total forgiveness); when he

subsequently tries putting them into practice, everything collapses in slapstick confusion.

Zieff and his writers inject more romance, and enlarge the age difference between husband and wife (played now by Dudley Moore and Nastassja Kinski); they also reduce the plans of campaign from three to one. The one chosen is murder.

Zieff wanted to remake Sturges's film ever since he began as a feature director with the quirky comedies *Slitner*

(1973) and *Hearts of the West* (1975). At first Peter Sellers was supposed to star. "When Peter was involved", Zieff recalled, "we were going to make the conductor either German or Italian, and we were going to play him slightly larger than life." Dudley Moore, of course, is slightly smaller than life, though his musical gifts and talent for physical comedy make him a natural replacement. "I literally blew a year of my life waiting to get the film made with Dudley", said Zieff - a year spent, on Moore's part, appearing in some particularly dreadful films (*Six Weeks*, *Loschick*).

As for Nastassja Kinski, cast as a young Italian starlet, she came to the role after a heavy, bizarre schedule: she played an American fashion model in *Exposed*, an alluring component of the chic poetic images in Jean-Jacques Beineix's *Moon in the Gutter*, and Clare Wicke in a biography of Schumann, *Spring Symphony*. "I really needed a light movie", she said; although on this evidence she may need several more to develop a proper knack for comedy.

Geoff Brown

Unfaithfully Yours (15) opens in London on Fri at the Studio, Oxford Street (437 3300) and Classic, Tottenham Court Road (636 6148).

Openings

THE HIT (18): Playful British thriller from a writer-director team, Peter Prince, Stephen Frears) with excellent television credits. Terence Stamp plays the criminal philosophically accepting retribution at the hands of John Hurt's hit man. With Tim Roth and Laurence Lister. From Fri at the Classic Haymarket (639 1527).

SPINAL TAP (18): Acute American spoof of heavy metal bands, cast in documentary form and centred on the disastrous return to the United States of an ancient British rock group. Rob Reiner directs and also appears as the documentary interviewer. From Fri at the Electric Screen (229 3884), Classic, Oxford Street (636 0310), Classic, Chelsea (662 5886).

GUINEY'S WALL (18): Yılmaz Güney's former imprisonment in Turkey, shows the obvious subject for his first film since freedom: the horrifying conditions of prison life - and their particular effect upon children. A fierce, rough work, made in France. From Fri at the ICA Cinema (830 3647) and Phoenix, East Finchley (863 2233).

Selected

PARIS, TEXAS (15): Lumiere (836 6691), Gate Notting Hill (221 0220), Screen on the Hill (435 3366). Few current films contain as much emotional resonance and visual beauty as Wim Wenders's intimate American epic about a man's search for his own identity and family. Wenders's camera revels in bizarre details of landscape and plays with illusion and reality, but the film's real strength comes from its treatment of human relationships.

BROADWAY DANNY ROSE (PG): Screen on the Green (226 3620), Gate Notting Hill (221 0220), Classic Haymarket (639 1527), Classic Oxford Street (636 0310), Odeon Kensington (602 6644). Woody Allen stars as Danny Rose, a great Broadway manager of failures, comically entangled with Mafie hit men and the zany girlfriend of his number one client, a rilly-polly balladeer. Impeccably directed and photographed.

The information in this column was correct at the time of going to press. Late changes are often made and it is advisable to check, using the telephone numbers given.

THEATRE

Troubles hidden under the Irish jokes

A play about Northern Ireland involving the beating up of an IRA suspect called Michael Patrick de Valera Demon Bomber Roche and containing - in the words of the author - "a lot of laughs" is likely to be a disconcerting experience.

It starts with the premise of a seemingly straightforward brutalization of a suspect in a cell in an English police station by a Royal Ulster Constabulary officer sent to interrogate him, but it turns out to be far from straightforward.

The play, *Rat in the Skull*, the main work in a short Irish season at the Royal Court opening next week, is by Ron Hutchinson, whose work includes the teasing BBC television thriller series *Bird of Prey*. He has also been a resident writer for the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Hutchinson, who has a Northern Irish Protestant background, has written plays about the troubles before, and returns to the theme with apparent reluctance. "I never set out to write a play about Ireland. In a way I have been trying to disengage from the internal debate and would rather not write about it. I worry about what right I, or other people, have to poke a finger in someone else's scar."



Determined doubter: Ron Hutchinson, exploring Irish issues

He says there is a genre of plays and films about Ireland at present, and "I can well understand how aggrieved the Irish become at being a branch of the fiction industry". His play is as much about the English response to Ireland and the crime of indifference as a plea for understanding.

"Half of me says that people are rightly indifferent, but the other half says 'Hang on'. It is not enough to be woken to the problem every few months by a

big bang. We have a responsibility to nudge around the problem."

Rat in the Skull aims to give the opportunity for a new voice to be heard - that of the RUC man whom we normally see behind a riot shield.

He speaks in this play, voicing his doubts but retaining his determination to maintain his beliefs. In that, he is a metaphor for the whole society, whose different sections keep on believing they are right.

Hutchinson resolutely refuses the notion that his play adds to our understanding, but cautiously hopes that it might point a way forward.

He has been attending rehearsals at the theatre, and rewriting it as the director, Max Stafford-Clark, and the actors get to work. "It is agony, but also fun. I belong to a generation of writers' which believes that plays cannot be written otherwise. I do not believe you can get more than 25 per cent of a play right before the director and actors get at it. Plays have to work and if a bit does not work, it has to come out. Anyway it is a treat being involved, if you live a reclusive existence for the rest of the year, and you can have a few beers too."

A companion piece at the Theatre Upstairs is *Up to the Sun and Down to the Centre*, by Peter Cox. It is based on a workshop held during four disturbing weeks with the Bogside and Creggan communities in Derry.

Christopher Warman

Rat in the Skull, Royal Court (730 1745). Previews tonight and Mon at 8pm. Opening Thurs at 8pm, thereafter Mon-Sat at 8pm, matinees Sat at 4pm.

TIMES GUERNSEY FISHERMAN'S SWEATER

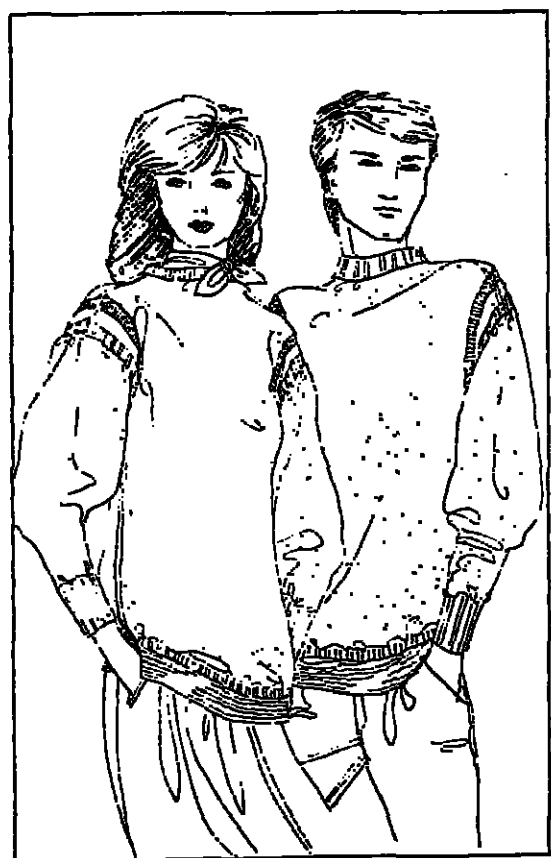
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In preview

THE DEVIL AND THE GOOD LORD: First British production of Jean Paul Sartre's epic play, set in Germany at the time of the post-Reformation Civil Wars. John Dexter directs a cast portraying 80 characters. Four-hour production with one long interval for dining. Lynne Handwerker, King Street, London W6 (741 2311). Previews Thurs, Fri, Sept 6, 10-12 at 6.30pm. Opens Sept 13 at 6.30pm. Until Oct 13, Mon-Sat at 8.30pm. No matinees.

HENRY VIII: Stratford production, with Richard Griffiths in the title role, directed by Howard Davies. Barwick (628 8795/638 8891). Previews Thurs and Fri at 7.30pm, also Sept 8 at 2pm and 7.30pm, Sept 10 at 7.30pm. Opens Sept 11 at 7pm. In repertory.

A NEW WAY TO PAY OLD DEBTS: Philip Massinger's 17th-century comedy, directed by Howard Davies. Barwick (628 8795/638 8891). Previews Wed, Thurs, Fri at 7.30pm, also Sept 8 at 2pm and 7.30pm, Sept 10, 11, at 7.30pm. Press night Sept 12 at 7pm. In repertory.

UP TO THE SUN AND DOWN TO THE CENTRE: Peter Cox's play is the second in the season of Irish work at the Royal Court, and depicts one mother's attempts to "hold her family and herself together in the face of increasing and relentless British brutalization". Danny Boyle directs. Royal Court Theatre Upstairs, Sloane Square, London SW1 (730 2554). Previews Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sept 6, at 7.30pm. Opens Sept 10 at 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat at 7.30pm.

Openings

FALL: New play by James Saunders, whose *Bodies* transferred successfully to the West End after a run at this theatre in 1978. Three sisters return home at a time of family crisis; they appear at first sight to have little in common. Julie Covington, Cecily Hobbs and Glyneth Le Touzel play the sisters. Robin Lefevre directs. Hampstead Theatre, Swiss Cottage, London NW3 (722 9301). Previews today and Mon-Wed at 8pm. Opens Thurs at 8pm. Then: Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinees Sat at 4.30pm.

THE GLASS MENAGERIE

Tennessee Williams's play in a production by the well-regarded Source Theatre, of Washington, DC. Bart Whitman directs this study of a neurotic girl and her immediate circle.

New End Theatre, 27 New End, Hampstead, London NW3 (435 6053). Previews on Tues and Wed at 7.30pm, opens Thurs at 7pm. Until Sept 30, Tues-Sat at 8pm; matinees Thurs at 2.30pm, Sat at 4pm.

HAMLET: New production, with Roger Rees in the title role, by Virginia McKenna as Gertrude, Brian Blessed as Claudius, Frances Barber as Ophelia. Ron Daniels directs. Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire (0789 295623). Previews today, Mon and Tues at 7.30pm. Opens Wed at 7pm. In repertory.

SEE HOW THEY RUN: Philip King's wartime farce, seen earlier this year in its revival production, returns to the West End. Directed by Ray Cooney. Shaftesbury Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2 (739 5399). Opens Tues at 8pm. Until Oct 13, Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 5.30pm and 8.30pm; matinees Wed at 3pm.

AMERICAN BUFFALO: Duke of York's Theatre, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (836 5122). Until Sept 8 (may be extended). Tues-Sat at 8pm; matinees Sat at 4pm. Already a fringe favourite, David Mamet's powerful American underworld comedy reaches the West End in a fine production dominated by Al Pacino's virtuoso lead performance.

PASSION PLAY: Wyndham's (636 3028). Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 8pm and 8.30pm; matinees Wed at 3pm. Witty, sad and dazzlingly intricate, Peter Nichols's award-winning 1981 play about unwilling adultery stars Leslie Phillips, Judy Parfitt, Barry Foster and Zena Walker.

WILD HONEY: Lyttelton (528 2252). Today and Tues at 8pm and 8.45pm, Mon and Wed at 7.45pm. In repertory. Chekhov's early comedy emerges as a masterpiece in its own right, thanks to Michael Frayn's imaginative translation and Christopher Morahan's production, with Ian McKellen at its centre.

Out of Town

CHICHESTER: Festival Theatre, Odeon Park, Chichester, West Sussex (0243 781312). The Merchant of Venice. Today and Thurs at 7.30pm, Wed and Thurs at 7.30pm. In repertory. Alice Guinness, Joanna McCallum, Jane Carr, David Yelland; directed by Patrick Garland. The Way of the World by William Congreve. Today, Mon, Tues, Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory. Joan Plowright, Maggie Smith, Michael Jayston; directed by William Gaskill.

LEICESTER: Haymarket, Belgrave Gate (0533 539797). A Day in the Death of Joe Egg by Peter Nichols. Previews on Tues at 7.30pm, opens Wed at 7.30pm. Until Sept 29, Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm, Fri and Sat at 8pm; matinees Sat at 4pm.

CHRISTOPHER TIMOTHY: Barbara Braw, Valerie Gogan star in a revival of Nichols's touching comedy about a couple with a seriously crippled child. Penny Chems directs this opening production of the theatre's new season. Phoenix Arts, Newark Street (0533 554 854). The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13½ by Sue Townsend. Opens Thurs at 7.30pm.

WATFORD: Palace Theatre, Clarendon Road (0923 25671). Raffles by E. W. Hornung and Eugene Presbrey, adapted by Leon Rubin. Opens Thurs at 7.45pm, until Sept 28, Mon-Thurs at 7.45pm, Fri and Sat at 8pm; matinees Sept 22, 23, at 3pm. Simon Cadell and Alan Dotie in the original 1901 play, from the popular stories about a "gentleman thief". Leon Rubin directs his own adaptation, the opening production of the theatre's new season.



Iron lady: Margaret Smith in the Way of the World (Chichester)

7.30pm. Until Nov 3, Tues-Sat at 7.30pm; matinees Sat at 2.30pm, and Sept 7, 11, 12, 19, 20, 25, 26, Oct 3, 4, 9, 10, 17, 18, 22, 24, 31, Nov 1 at 2pm.

World stage premiere of the best-selling humorous book, with Shelle Sissel, David Davenport, supporting Simon Schatzberger as Adrian.

STRATFORD: Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0789 295623). Henry V. Today at 1.30pm, Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory. Kenneth Branagh, with Bernard Bingley, Brian Blessed, Sebastian Shaw, in a new production directed by Adrian Noble. Richard III. Thurs at 1.30pm. In repertory.

Anthony Sher in the title role, with Patrick Stewart, Brian Blessed, Christopher Ravenscroft, in a new production. Hamlet. Today and Mon-Wed at 7.30pm. In repertory.

Roger Rees, Brian Blessed, Kenneth Branagh, Virginia McKenna, Frances Barber, directed by Ron Daniels. The Merchant of Venice. Thurs at 7.30pm. In repertory. Ian McKellen, Frances Tomelty, Amanda Root, Joanne Simon, directed by John Caird. The Other Place (0789 295623). The Party by Trevor Griffiths. Tues and Wed at 7.30pm. In repertory. Roger Alam, Ian McKellen, directed by Howard Davies with David Edgar. Romeo and Juliet. Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory. John Lard directs Amanda Root, Simon Templeman. Sold out. Camille by Pam Gems. Thurs at 7.30pm. In repertory. New interpretation of La Dame aux Camellias with Frances Barber, Alphonse Emmanuelle, Nicholas Farrell. Ron Daniels directs.

WATFORD: Palace Theatre, Clarendon Road (0923 25671). Raffles by E. W. Hornung and Eugene Presbrey, adapted by Leon Rubin. Opens Thurs at 7.45pm, until Sept 28, Mon-Thurs at 7.45pm, Fri and Sat at 8pm; matinees Sept 22, 23, at 3pm. Simon Cadell and Alan Dotie in the original 1901 play, from the popular stories about a "gentleman thief". Leon Rubin directs his own adaptation, the opening production of the theatre's new season.

The Week compiled by: Peter Waymark; Festivals: Louise Nicholson; Theatre: Anthony Masters.

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Thousands of Brooke Bond shares sold

In chess parlance, Tate & Lyle's battle to takeover Brooke Bond is developing into a deeply absorbing middle game. Brooke Bond complained to the City Takeover Panel yesterday that Tate had not made a profit forecast and was therefore depriving Brooke Bond shareholders, who are being offered half the price of the bid in paper, of essential information.

The Takeover Panel swiftly and firmly rebuffed Brooke Bond on the ground that the Code does not require a company to make a profit forecast. Since the complaint had about it the air of a spoiling tactic, Brooke Bond can hardly have been surprised.

Both parties know that the crucial move governing the game is the white knight supposedly coming to rescue Brooke Bond. Tate has said that it does not believe in such a creature and that only persistent rumours are supporting the Brooke Bond share price above the level of the offer. It has demonstrated faith in the argument - for the moment at least - by merely extending the original offer.

Certainly, Tate has little to lose. If Brooke Bond slips in the market Tate will pick up shares more cheaply than if the stakes had been raised; if the price holds steady, there is plenty of time to attack.

Part of Tate's approach has been to stress to institutions that it really believes the extended offer, worth about 103p a share, is fair and that it will not become trapped in an auction with a financially stronger competitor.

Brooke Bond, which hopes that these devices will not keep a lid on the share price, about 110p at the moment. The company is pleased that Thursday's announcement by Tate did not depress the price. But it is far from definite that the present level can be maintained indefinitely without some hard news.

Sir John Cuckney's visit to the United States has yielded nothing publicly, perhaps ending up on the other side of the Atlantic, but whether there is any fresh dealing or whether this is just the pass the parcel game normal to such takeover battles is unclear.

Brooke Bond, moreover, has fired a great deal of ammunition. It may be tempted into a forecast for 1985, but that is unlikely to alter the balance of the argument decisively.

Tom Clausen faces Reagan backlash

Relations between the Reagan Administration and the World Bank have reached a low ebb, giving rise to persistent speculation that if Mr Reagan is re-elected as President of the United States, Mr A.W. 'Tom' Clausen will not be reappointed as president of the World Bank.

In recent months, the Administration has rebuffed the bank openly for attempting, as Reaganites see it, to carve out a larger role for itself in managing the global debt crisis.

There is widespread speculation that Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, will be asked to replace Mr Clausen, former head of the Bank of America, when his first term expires in 1986.

During the debate which precedes Mr Volcker's reappointment in June 1983 to a second four-year term, it was rumoured widely that he had made a secret pact with President Reagan to step down voluntarily early in the second term to pursue other interests.

Increasingly shaky relations between the Bank and the United States are crucial. The US is the largest shareholder, plays a dominant role in its operations, and sees the appointment of its president as something like appointing a viceroy in Victorian England.

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Last month and in July, top Reagan Administration officials gave a series of background briefings in which they criticized the Bank for its energy loan policies; its programme of increased, longer term balance-of-payments financing; and Mr Clausen's insistence on naming his own man, rather than one recommended by the Treasury, to head the International Finance Corp.

Mr Clausen chose Britain's Sir William Ryrie for the important post as head of the Bank's affiliate, which invests in private enterprises in developing countries, over a Latin American candidate who had been put forward by the US Treasury.

The tension is expected to provoke a sharp debate over the resources and future role of the institution at the joint annual meeting this month of the Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

In recent weeks, the Treasury has been highly critical of the Bank's increased balance of payments assistance programme which it regards as the traditional role of the IMF. The programme of longer-term balance of payments lending has increased sharply to 28 per cent of the Bank's total loans.

The United States Treasury also warned the bank to reduce its loans for energy projects in Third World countries unless they are matched by similar commitments from private investors.

Mr David Mulford, a Treasury official, said: "Our opinion is that not enough is being done to encourage direct investment in Third World countries."

World Bank officials agree that poor relations with the United States Treasury are their most pressing problem. They fear moves to reduce the Bank's activities by curbing its ability to borrow dollars. Some fear that unless they resist American efforts to dictate policies, the Bank will lose control of its operations. Clausen's head may be their sacrificial offering.

Things seem to be looking up for London's hard-pressed marine insurance market. The decision to raise premiums on renewals of ships' hull insurance by at least 10 per cent indicates that underwriters are more confident that the market is past its worst.

London's marine underwriting market has faced severe problems over the last four or five years. Intense competition and premium cutting ate into the underwriting profits of Lloyd's syndicates and London insurance companies alike. Charging higher premiums to fleets with bad claims records also led to a drain of business to the United States and other overseas markets which were offering lower rates.

But for more than a year greater caution among insurers and insured has been reversing the trend. Many shipping fleets have begun to have doubts about the security of their new insurers, while the overseas insurance markets themselves have started to be more selective about their business.

The decision by the joint hull committee of the Institute of London Underwriters - including representatives from Lloyd's and more than 100 insurance companies - not only to raise rates but to maintain the differential on fleets with poor claims records, suggests a new confidence in London.

True, the committee's decision is only a guide, but the likelihood of serious undercutting of the new levels is remote. As Mr Dick Outhwaite, chairman of the committee, commented: "underwriters are looking at such bad results they cannot afford to undercut and still make any money". But although this is a start there is still a long way to go to reach realistic premium rates.

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Stockjobber aims at first direct merger with broker

By William Kay City Editor

One of London's principal jobbing firms is holding talks aimed at a direct merger with a firm of stockbrokers. This will be the first time that such a "marriage" has been contemplated. Until now, brokers and jobbers have been paired only through a would-be parent company takeover.

Barclays Bank has already announced that it wants to put together the jobbers Wedd, Durlicher, Mordant with the stockbroking firms of Mullens & Co and Rowe and Pitman under the umbrella of Mercury Securities.

The latest plan is for a direct jobber-broker merger outside any such umbrella arrangement, although a merchant bank may take a stake in the combined group.

As the merged business would retain its own identity, the Stock Exchange will permit the two firms to go no further



Michael Sandberg: bank set for 29.9 per cent Capel stake

than a statement of intent. Even a minority investment will be resisted.

This new twist in the stock market's preparations for freely negotiated commissions has emerged as another big stockbroker. James Capel, announced that its lengthy talks with Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation whose

chairman is Mr Michael Sandberg, has produced agreement for the bank to take an initial 29.9 per cent, followed by a full takeover when the rules change.

Capel will continue to operate independently, but will form part of Hongkong and Shanghai's growing range of financial services round the world. It has already bought the London accepting house, Antony Gibbs, now renamed Wardley, and has a leasing arm.

Mr Keith Heathcote, Capel's senior partner, said last night: "There have been friendships at board level between the two companies for more than 20 years. The combination will reinforce the momentum of Capel's development."

The shareholding partners will be encouraged to stay after the merger through having the payment for their shares phased over several years.

No price has been published, but as Capel is one of the biggest firms in the market it

could expect to be valued at about £100m.

There are 62 partners, including one of the few women partners, Miss Haruko Fukuda.

The Bank of England confirmed yesterday that the Governor's advisory committee on the regulation of the City has proposed that the City should be supervised by a limited number of self-regulatory agencies, and that there should be an intermediary SRA between them and the Department of Trade and Industry.

The Governor, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, is expected to include the committee's opinion in his formal advice to Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. This in turn will form part of the input to the White Paper which the Government plans to publish in November.

The White Paper will in effect be the Government's considered response to the Governor's Report on investor protection, as a prelude to legislation.

STC backing expected

The £410m takeover bid by Standard Telephone and Cables for ICL, Britain's leading computer manufacturer, is expected to be given clearance next week by Mr Norman Tebbit, the Trade and Industry Secretary.

Mr Peter Shore, the Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, has called for a full investigation of the deal by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission because of STC's strong connections with ICL of the United States, which will retain a 29.9 per cent stake in the group after the merger goes through.

But the Office of Fair Trading is believed to have accepted STC's case that it is now a fully independent British company, and recommended that the merger be allowed to go ahead without a reference.

The Government's decision is expected on Wednesday. STC's offer closes for the first time on Friday. The bid has yet to cross the hurdle of formal negotiation of ICL's collaborative agreement on computer technology with Fujitsu of Japan.

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R. J. Reynolds emerges as favourite to bid for Imps

J. Bibby jumped 12p to 230p. **Dalgety** 6p to 420p. **Unigate** 4p to 131p and **United Biscuits** 3p to 149p.

It appears that Mr Christopher Selmes, the controversial 1970s financier, may have sold his significant share stake.

BICC, figures on Wednesday, lost ground and **Davy Corporation** eased a few coppers on fading bid hopes. But **Bridon**, on takeover chatter, rose 4p to 92p.

17,151 (15,672) for first half. Trading profit 581 (236). Abnormal debits 6 (5), associates profits 534 (399). Pretax profit 1109 (630). Tax 459 (185). Earnings per share 7.2 cents (4.9 cents).

● **SCOTTISH AGRICULTURAL INDS:** Six months interim dividend

Land Securities pays price of keeping up with fashion

Land Securities is particularly vulnerable to the vagaries of fashion, because the bulk of its assets dates from the Fifties and Sixties. But the market's perception of these buildings has changed since 1980. Layout

cent, after sales rose by 13 per cent, plainly has a cheery tale to tell. Margin gains of a point, in this case from 5.2 per cent to 6.4 per cent, are always hard to come by.

Church's starting point is demand. The classic English

The pace of US economic recovery made its credit

Wall Street

Wall Street duly learned this week that the Fed had decided

Wall Street duly learned this week that the Fed had decided

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 7½%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 8%; £50,000 and over, 8½%.

Equity Exempt (Accum Units)	232.8 280.2	242.9 292.6	+2.3 +2.8	3.13% 3.13%
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Carl Byoir & Associates: Mr Terence Franklin is named as executive vice-president.

Wilfred Robert & Associates: Lord Roberts of Woldingham becomes chairman of the board.

Mr Harry Paten Evans joins the board as director.

Fieron Homes: Mr Roderick Wilson becomes finance director, and Mr Adrian Wat-

rener is appointed director.

Grants of St James': Mr Jeremy Beaumont, vice-chairman of the firm Mansfield has been appointed corporate affairs director of Grants from September 17. At the same time Mr John Taylor will become a director of Grants and chairman of its managing director of Harth Mansfield.

Terence Franklin is named as executive vice-president.

Alfred Robens Associates: Lord Robens of Woldingham becomes chairman of the board.

Mr Harry Paten Evans joins the board as director.

Heron Homes: Mr Roderick Williams becomes finance director and Mr Adrian War-

Grants of St James's: Mr Jeremy Bennett, vice-chairman of Hatch, Mansfield, has been appointed corporate affairs director of Grants from September 17. At the same time Mr John Taylor will become a director of Grants and chairman and managing director of Hatch, Mansfield.

Lord Robens of Wellingham becomes chairman of the board. **Mr Harry Paten Evans** joins the board as director. **Heron Homes: Mr Roderick Williams** becomes finance director and **Mr Adrian War-**

Mr Harry Paten Evans joins the board as director.

Heron Homes: **Mr Roderick Williams** becomes finance director and **Mr Adrian War-**

Williams becomes finance director and Mr Adrian War-

[illegible]

FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

Telecom fact sheet

The Government is leaving nothing to chance in its attempts to persuade the investing public that British Telecom is a share to buy.

Everything you need to know about the public offer for sale is contained in the British Telecom Share Offer Information Sheet, which answers questions ranging from - What is Privatization? to Can I get My Money Back?

If you write for a copy of the information sheet you will also be sent a copy of the prospectus including a share application form.

The fact sheet is available to anyone who writes to (or telephones) the British Telecom Share Information Office (Tel: 0272-272272) PO Box 1, Bristol, BS99 1BT.

Greater return

From this weekend, the interest rate on National Savings Income and Deposit Bonds goes up from 10 per cent to 12.75 per cent. Interest is taxable but is paid in full without deduction of tax.

From Monday, the minimum purchase and minimum holding of National Savings Deposit Bonds is reduced from £500 to £250. Minimum investment in the Income Bond remains at £2,000 but it is worth remembering that interest is paid monthly.

Monthly income

Peckham Building Society will be introducing a monthly income facility on its Super Shares from September 1. These offer a rate of 9.75 per cent of basic rate tax, equivalent to 13.53 per cent gross, and account holders can receive their interest monthly, if required on accounts with balances of £2,000 or more.

Withdrawals are allowed without notice and without any interest penalty - as long as the balance remains above the £2,000 threshold. Further details from Peckham Building Society (Tel: 01-639 2254).

Better cover

Midshires Building Society is improving the terms of its Unicovert buildings and contents insurance. For £2.50 per £1,000 insured, buildings are covered plus contents insurance of up to half the amount of the buildings cover - with a limit of £35,000.

Under the new terms, Unicovert provides insurance against accidental damage to television, videos, home computers, hi-fi systems and for deterioration of deep-freeze contents. There is also a guarantee of full rebuilding costs even if they exceed the sum insured. Householders may have to pay more than the basic £2.50 per £1,000 if they live in a high-risk area.

Oppenheimer launch

Oppenheimer, the final manager, is launching four unit trusts, European Growth, High Income, UK Growth and Pacific Growth. They will be available from Monday. Minimum investment in each fund is £1,000 and there is a fixed price initial offer which closes on September 17 at 25p a unit.

The Oppenheimer funds, which have been in existence long enough to establish a track record, have turned in a respectable performance. A sum of £1,000 invested in Oppenheimer's Income and Growth fund five years ago would be worth £1,945 as at July 1, compared with £2,276 from top performing Henderson Income and Growth and £1,123 from the tail-end, Duncan Lawrie Income.

Tax warning

The Inland Revenue is getting tough about charging interest on overdue tax, according to accountants. Dearden Farrow, in its August clients newsletter, Dearden Farrow says: "Estimated assessments to higher rate tax on taxed investment income will be arriving in the autumn and if there is insufficient information from which to make accurate calculations of tax liabilities arising, interest will run on underpayments after December 1 1984."



"ALL YOU STATE WE'RE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE?"

"The Revenue now has power to charge interest even if it has failed to raise an estimated assessment where details of chargeable gains (in excess of annual exemptions) and new sources of income have not been fully reported before December 1."

Hallmark winner

For the highest return from a building society you usually have to commit your money for a fixed period. The new Hallmark Account from the Midshires Building Society offers investors the best of both worlds - a high interest rate of up to 10 per cent and access to your money in emergencies.

You can invest in a Hallmark account for fixed periods of three, four or five years. Your money will earn 9.5 net of basic rate tax for the three-year term; 9.75 per cent for four years rising to 10 per cent over five years.

The differentials over the ordinary share rate are guaranteed. If you need some or all of your cash, you can withdraw it provided you give 90 days written notice.

But there is a penalty. You will have 90 days interest on the sum withdrawn deducted from your account if you take money out before the fixed period expires. The minimum investment is £500 and you can add to the account.

Details from Midshires Building Society Branches or from head office at PO Box 81 Wolverhampton, WV1 1EL (Tel: 0902 710710).

Index-linked Avon

Avon Insurance is introducing a home and contents insurance policy with the option of paying the premiums in instalments over 12 months.

Both the Standard and Extra cover are index-linked, removing the need to increase the sum insured.

Features of the new SuperAvon Policy include cover for contents being moved professionally to a new home, replacement of external locks if keys are

stolen, and contents in the garden up to £250.

Details from Avon Insurance, Stratford-upon-Avon (Tel: 0789 204211).

Financial first

A group of London businessmen think it is time British investors were offered a way of channelling their money into socially beneficial enterprises, so it has launched the first "socially and ecologically responsive venture capital service".

The Financial Initiative, Promoters of FIL say it offers an investment consultancy and management service to individuals, organizations and institutions who wish to see their investments generate wealth for the community as well as financial gain for themselves.

Mr Giles Chitty, chief executive, said: "In the States and Europe, particularly Holland, there are a range of channels between which the socially conscious investor can choose, but in England there has so far been very little choice of this kind."

FIL will act as brokers for equity finance for socially and ecologically advantageous businesses, both new and going concerns. A Business Expansion Fund will be established in due course. Details from The Financial Initiative, Yonderover House, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwick, CV35 4AT (Tel: 07227 223).

INVESTMENT

Time to increase liquidity

Investors should consider increasing the liquidity in their portfolios, according to the stockbroker Sheppard and Chase.

Its latest newsletter to clients says: "The rally in the UK market has regained much of the lost ground but unless there are further and unexpectedly favourable interest rate developments, the best has probably been seen."

"Economic fundamentals will reassess themselves and clients should start to increase liquidity again."

The investment review also highlights a little known advantage in a married couple being taxed separately for Capital Gains Tax purposes.

It is widely known that a husband and wife can claim only £5,600 of exempt gains between them in the current tax year. What is not so widely appreciated, however, is that they can elect to be taxed separately for CGT purposes, and that such an election can produce tactical benefits as far as the carry forward of losses is concerned.

Take, for example, the situation where a wife's portfolio contains a £5,600 capital gain, and the husband's portfolio contains a £5,600 loss. If they are taxed jointly, no tax is payable but the gain will cancel out the loss as far as the future is concerned.

If they are taxed separately, however, the wife's £5,600 gain is exempt, and the husband's loss can be carried forward for future use. This separate elec-

Strong dollar boosts trusts

Investment trusts continue to outperform the market with a rise in the Financial Times Actuaries Investment Trust index of 176.9 per cent over the five years to July 31, 1984, compared with an increase of only 144.7 per cent in the FT Actuaries All Share index over the same period.

With 33 per cent of investment trusts' assets invested in North America, the strength of the dollar over sterling during July boosted the underlying asset values of investment trusts and helped to alleviate the falls on Wall Street.

TOP 20 FIVE YEARS TO JULY 1, 1984

Trust	Total Return
Crescent Japan	+401.3
GT Japan	+361.5
Barry	+322.7
Flaming Japanese	+303.2
Greenfield	+287.8
Lowland	+286.7
Atlantic Assets	+278.5
Northern Seas	+278.0
Murray Income	+273.4
Edinburgh Amer Assets	+258.7
London & Garmore	+258.0
English & Scottish Group	+246.1
Flaming Far Eastern	+245.8
London & Strathclyde	+240.4
Tribune	+234.8
Scottish Mortgage	+234.6
Atlantic Sec Corp	+225.8
Electric & General	+223.4
Orayton Japan	+221.5

Source: The Association of Investment Trust Companies.

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TAX ADVICE

Guide for the non-expert

Tolly's Tax Guide 1984-85, published this week, aims to provide practical tax advice for the non-expert. The book sets out in detail how British tax liabilities are calculated and how they can be minimized by sensible planning but it does so in an uncomplicated manner.

The guide explains the general principles of each of the main taxes and in the remaining chapters takes everyday commercial and personal situations and highlights all the relevant taxes which must be considered.

As a general introduction to the tax system and a guide to some of the planning points which could easily be overlooked by the layman, it will be very useful although it will not replace the financial adviser for the more complex tax affairs.

*Tolly's Tax Guide 1984-85 is available in bookshops now, price £10.50 until September 15 when it falls to £9.95.

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Present Income £ _____ Date of Birth _____ Tax Rate _____ %

Lump sum amount available for investment £ _____

Amount available for regular savings £ _____ per year/month

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LEA 1/1

REED STENHOUSE GIBBS

REED STENHOUSE GIBBS

Leeds steps up battle for deposits

Leeds Permanent Building Society delighted investors and administrators, a blow to its competitors with the launch this week of its Liquid Gold account, paying a generous 9.25 per cent net of basic rate tax, with instant access to cash and no penalty on withdrawal.

This is the highest return available on a no-notice account from any of the big five building societies, and is likely to force a rethink on rates among other societies.

"We think we will clean up on this one," commented Mr Michael Megarry, of Leeds Permanent. Minimum investment is £500.

Leeds is expecting the money to come rolling in although no one is prepared to commit themselves on just how much the account is likely to attract. The aim is to get rid of home loan queues at Leeds branches. "Mortgages on demand is what we want," Mr Megarry said.

Overall the societies have had a poor month - net receipts are not expected to exceed £300m compared with £608m in July and £630m during June.

"We thought long and hard before introducing this account. The move places us in a very competitive position that will be difficult to beat," said Mr Peter Hemingway, chief general manager of the Leeds.

Nearest rival to the new Leeds account is the Cheltenham & Gloucester's Cheltenham Gold account, paying 9 per cent, which has been market leader among the big national societies since its launch in April 1981. The Leeds move prompted an instant reaction from the C & G, which announced an immediate re-

BUILDING SOCIETY BEST BUYS				
Society	Notice (months)	Minimum investment £	True interest rate %	
Guardian Supershares	0	10,000	9.98	
Teachers Bullion	0	3,000	9.88	
Chesham 2 Year	0	10,000	9.85	
Income Bond	0	10,000	9.84	
Town & Country 90	1	1,000	9.88	
Nottingham Oddfellows	0	1,000	9.84	
Monthly Income	1	1,000	9.84	
Peterborough Monthly	1	1,000	9.84	
Income	1	1,000	9.83	
Bolton 1 Month	1	1,000	9.88	
Hemel Hempstead Cent Share	2	1,000	10.04	
Bolton 3 Month	3	1,000	10.04	
Marsden Supershares	3	1,000	9.75	
Paddington Maxi	3	1,000	9.98	
Guardian Supershares	6	1,000	9.98	
St Pancras Extra Yield	6	6,000	9.98	

(m) - monthly income * quoted interest rate
Source: Building Society Choice

view of the rates paid on the Cheltenham Gold account.

Mr Andrew Longhurst, chief general manager of the C & G, said: "The Cheltenham Gold monthly interest account, offering a return of 9.38 per cent, already beats the rate announced by the Leeds, for investments over £5,000. However, we are determined that the Cheltenham Gold remains the best."

A Board meeting will be held to review rates and it seems likely that there will be an increase and possibly a reduction in the minimum qualifying investment in the account.

It was the launch of the Cheltenham Gold account which put the first nail in the coffin of the Building Societies Association's interest rate cartel - now totally demolished.

Competition between the societies is producing a rash of new schemes - this week National & Provincial revived the largely defunct term share with the launch of its high yield, three-year term share paying 9.75 per cent.

Smaller societies, many of which have long been paying

BURGLARY

Insurance discounts at a premium

Burglary has become so widespread that every 90 seconds a house is ransacked.

But the statistics are meaningless, until it happens to you. And the losses suffered by the householder are reflected in the miserable performance of household insurance business by the insurance companies.

They make a paper loss on this sort of cover and keep doing it only because they can play the markets with the premium money before they have to pay it all out again in claims.

Surprisingly, few insurance companies give householders any financial incentive to take sensible precautions such as security locks, bolts and burglar alarms.

Sun Alliance offers a 10 per cent discount on premiums for "good quality protection" (not necessarily a burglar alarm) on their up-market Firemark policy which has a minimum contents cover of £20,000.

The other discounts in the market are tied to a particular burglar alarm company. Cornhill offers a 5 per cent reduction on premiums where Chubb alarms are fitted and the Economic through Life and General offers 10 per cent discount if you install Hoover burglar alarms.

"The cost of verification has been one of the reasons why major insurers have not offered security discounts before," says Sun Alliance. "It remains a

problem for low premium business, but Sun Alliance feels that the higher sums insured under Firemark policies do justify rewarding the careful householder."

Despite the discount, the Firemark policy is not the cheapest you can find. But, different policies are not strictly comparable - the Firemark offers lots of frills such as cover for money, travel tickets and credit cards and the replacement of locks if keys are lost or stolen.

A house in central London (but not in the area's highest risk parts) would rate a premium of £3.15 per hundred for high risk items and £1.08 for all other property with the security discount.

But under the TSB scheme which grades minimum cover according to the area and of the house - a four bedroom semi-detached house in central London requiring a minimum of £20,000 cover would cost 75p per £100 for contents. For all risks cover you pay 60 per cent of the premium for 10 per cent of the cover (i.e. £90 for £2,000 cover which works out at £4.50 per £100).

The high risk rates at the Economic are 75p per £100 for contents, £2.50 per £100 all risks before the 10 per cent security discount.

Vivien Goldsmith



Vivien Goldsmith

SAVINGS

Friendly answer to Budget

The first of the tax-exempt friendly societies have come out with revised schemes since their wings were clipped in the last Budget. The societies were required to cut the size of their schemes by more than half and both the Family Assurance and the Lancashire and Yorkshire have launched schemes up to the maximum allowable rates.

The plans aim to give everyone over the age of 18 the opportunity to invest for 10 years in a scheme which gives them a maximum tax-free return on their savings.

Investors can contribute £100 a year, or £9 a month with Lancashire and Yorkshire or £8.65 with Family Assurance. On the former plan, a lump sum investment is also available costing £766 for an individual, a discount of 25 per cent.

The plans have the added bonus of giving automatic life cover of up to £750 per person, depending on age and state of health. On the Lancashire and Yorkshire scheme, for example, a married couple saving £9 a month each for 10 years (assuming a 15 per cent growth rate) can expect to see their savings grow to £3,860, tax free.

Further details available from: Lancashire and Yorkshire, Tel: 01-935 5566; Family Assurance on Brighton 671111.

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For further information, return the coupon without delay - or telephone us on 01-236 3885.

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FAMILY MONEY

LEGAL EXPENSES

Cover that meets the cost of justice

The imminent demise of the conveyancing monopoly has forced a re-think among the legal profession about the levels of charges. The signs are that in the face of the likely incursion of banks, building societies and estate agents, solicitors are reducing their conveyancing fees.

Moreover, with the legal profession shortly to become free to advertise, charges should become more competitive.

Nevertheless, litigation costs will still remain high and often be a strong deterrent discouraging aggrieved parties from seeking to enforce their legal rights.

Until fairly recently, legal aid or substantial private resources provided the only financial incentives to pursue a claim. At least that was the position until legal expenses insurance became widely available.

Those most likely to benefit from this insurance are people who do not come within the narrow financial limits for legal aid. But even if your finances do qualify you for legal aid this should not automatically lead you to discount legal expenses insurance altogether.

Legal aid is not all-embracing; you cannot, for example, obtain legal aid for representation before an industrial tribunal.

There are several reasons why you should consider legal expenses insurance. In the usual forum for resolving consumer disputes - county court arbitration for cases involving under £500 - each side normally has to bear its own costs, whatever the outcome.

Even in civil disputes too large to come within the arbitration scheme, awards of costs to the winner are rarely a full indemnity for one's outlay. The standard practice is for the losing party to pay approximately two-thirds of the winner's

costs, leaving the winner to pay the balance.

Moreover, in addition to indemnifying you for costs, insurance can often secure you a higher settlement for your claim than you would obtain had you been self-financed.

This is because the pressure on you to accept a lower settlement figure than your case merits is alleviated by the fact that the insurance company will be paying your costs. Low tactical offers of settlement - the favourite ploy of litigants, particularly insurance companies - can be rejected until you receive a reasonable offer.

What will legal expenses insurance cover you for? Most companies will provide cover for practically any form of contentious issue, whether you are pursuing or defending the action.

Consumer and employment disputes, personal injuries claims, motoring offences and accidents, landlord and tenant disputes - these are a few examples of areas where legal expenses insurers offer comprehensive cover.

But bear in mind that non-contentious matters, such as conveyancing or probate charges will not be covered. And only limited cover is available for matrimonial disputes. Premiums vary considerably as does the amount of cover offered so you must shop around. In addition all policies limit the amount of the indemnity against your legal costs.

Take for example the family legal benefits policy marketed by Legal Benefits. Basic cover for costs of up to £5,000 is available for a premium of £80 per annum or £90 if you pay in monthly instalments.

The premium will provide cover for the policyholder and immediate family living in the home in respect of claims by or against them and not already



Taking cover: it pays to shop around for the best policy

covered by existing insurances. This encompasses defending motoring offences, pursuing or defending disputes over the ownership of land, consumer claims and applications by employees to an industrial tribunal.

Some companies offer specific policies to cover particular legal areas where problems frequently occur.

For an annual premium of £40 D.A.S. Legal Expenses Insurance will provide cover of up to £10,000 for homeowners who let their homes intending to occupy them later. This will cover the costs of pursuing claims for rent arrears, damage, and possession proceedings.

Such problems are common in short-term private lettings where having the law on your side often does not avoid months of expensive litigation. The D.A.S. policy will also cover hotel expenses of £25 a day for 28 days while the tenant unlawfully remains in occupation.

Another useful facet of legal expenses insurance is the 24-hour legal advisory service

which companies such as Hambro Housley and Legal Benefits include in the insurance package. This gives policyholders free and instant access to legal advice over the telephone on practically any legal problem.

Legal expenses insurance is available either as a separate policy or as an optional extra to your household insurance. There are also a host of commercial legal expenses policies for the company, sole trader or partnership, often providing group cover at discounted rates.

However, although legal expenses insurance may seem like a relatively inexpensive way of guaranteeing untroubled sleep at night, it certainly will not give you carte blanche to go litigation-crazy.

For a start the insurance companies invariably reserve the right not to accept a claim even where the subject matter falls squarely within your indemnity policy. If the company does not think you have a reasonable chance of success it will not provide the indemnity

for your legal costs. In other words the company always has the final say, although you have to plough through the small print of the policies to discover this.

Moreover, once over this hurdle and into the realm of insured legal costs, you are never in full and final control of your case.

Most policies oblige you to refer to the insurance company before your solicitor incurs sizable items of expenditure, such as barristers' fees, and all policies reserve the right to terminate cover should you not accept an offer of settlement which the company thinks is acceptable.

All policies also have specific exclusions which are more fully detailed in the policy itself rather than the promotional leaflet which you are sent at first.

Among the standard exclusions will be costs incurred in proceedings against you alleging dishonesty or intentional violence - unless, of course, you turn out to be innocent.

Furthermore you cannot take out legal expenses cover for impending litigation where you knew or ought to have known that you were likely to be involved in a claim at the time you took out the policy. If the claim materializes it will not be covered under your policy.

The moral must be that, if you are contemplating legal expenses insurance, shop around and always ask for a specimen policy.

Further information may be had from D.A.S. Legal Expenses Insurance Co (Tel: 0272 290321); Hambro Housley Legal Protection (Tel: 0206 870570); Legal Benefits (Tel: 01-661 1491); and JRPC Legal and Personnel Insurance Services (Tel: 0455-614349).

Martin Griffiths

INSURANCE

'Unrealistic' projections criticized

Norwich Union has added its voice to the growing criticism of those life assurance companies which sell with-profit policies on the basis of unrealistic projections of future returns.

In recent years, the future projections by companies have been used increasingly by both intermediaries and clients as the yardstick by which to measure competing policies, said Mr Hugh Scurlfield the managing director of Norwich Union Life. These projections were often misleadingly high.

Many companies, for example, have been publishing projections for new 25-year endowment policies which are anywhere between 30 and 50 per cent more than they are actually paying out on similar policies now.

One reason for this is that many companies base their terminal bonus projection on a percentage of their annual bonus figure, but there is no reason to suppose that annual bonus figures would stay at their high levels over 15 or 20 years, said Mr Scurlfield.

The problem of projections has become particularly acute because rates of return on life company investments have been unusually high over the last few years. This has enabled companies to pay historically high bonuses. But to assume this rate of growth will continue over long periods - as the projections do-is unrealistic.

One obstacle is simply that the companies that do have a genuinely good investment record and can expect to do well in the future do not want any system which would not let them take full advantage of this in their marketing.

Richard Thomson

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*Assuming your Capital Gains Tax allowance of £5600 is not exceeded.

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BUSINESS EXPANSION SCHEME

Granville confident of hitting £2m target for third fund

Granville, the market maker in Over-The-Counter shares, has launched its third fund in the crowded Business Expansion Scheme field.

The fund aims to raise £2m by October 15, and in spite of the difficulty some funds have had in raising cash, Granville is confident of reaching its target.

It believes that many investors have been deterred by fears of difficulties in getting out of investments once the five years of tax relief are over.

But Granville's own Over-The-Counter market, which matches buyers and sellers of shares in unquoted companies, gives a potential "in-house exit" for investors.

A company would have to be in a healthy shape to make it possible, but Granville is committed to making a market or persuading the managers to buy in shares.

Granville's experience with unquoted companies gives it a track record, and indeed its last BES fund - 1984/5, invested £1.8m in seven companies, all of which are making profits.

But the seven companies, which were involved in greeting cards, computer disk packs, self-assembly kitchens, boat accessories, animal feed, the Magnet division of BOC (a management buyout) and commercial video, were already profitable at the time of investment.

"We look for attractive propositions without high risk," said the managing director, Mr Robin Hodgson. The management charges



Robin Hodgson: avoiding risk

have been cut from 6 per cent on the last BES fund to 4 per cent, after complaints that the charges were too high.

Granville says that now it has experience in the BES field it can set up a fund more cheaply. For instance, forms of words have been agreed with the Inland Revenue, which can be used again without protracted talks.

The minimum investment is £2,500, although the average investment made by the 300 investors in the last fund was between £6,000 and £7,000.

Granville is launching a new fund this weekend which will be open for six weeks until October

12. The fund is open-ended, but will be viable as long as it pulls in at least £500,000. Last year Britannia aimed for £2.5m, but received £1.4m.

The Britannia fund charges 5 per cent initially, plus a 5 per cent exit fee based on the final value of the investment.

"That means that we get rewarded if we do well - the client will be pleased and so will we," said Mr Richard Bagge, the marketing director of Britannia unit trusts.

Britannia, unlike most companies, does not reserve the option to take up shares in the companies in which it invests.

The funds have to be invested before the end of the tax year for investors to qualify for tax relief at their marginal rate. The later that funds leave their closing date the more difficult it will be to find quality investments.

Yet the funds have to balance this against investors' desire to hang on to their money as long as possible.

If investors buy in early they do not have a complete picture of their tax position for the year, and they forego interest, which instead accrues to the fund.

Vivien Goldsmith

BES FUNDS STILL OPEN

	Closing date
Second Yorkshire Fund (Capital for companies)	Sept 14
Second Buckmaster Development Fund	Sept 24
Second Minister Trust BEF	Sept 28
Second Britannia BEF	Oct 12
Granville BEF 1984/85	Oct 15

Can share prices go on rising forever?

Investors have seen major stock markets show exceptionally healthy growth over the last two years.

It must now be right to ask whether this growth will continue: and if not, what will the implications be?

The investor with vision needs a portfolio that looks beyond stocks and shares.

He must protect himself against the unwelcome possibility of a downturn in share prices, by spreading his investment into other areas.

This is where commodities become important. By prudent dealing in futures, money can be made in falling as well as rising markets.

Successful commodity investment can generate profit even in a stormy economy.

Of course, commodities have the reputation of being almost dangerously speculative.

Certainly the pace and character of the commodity markets means that both gains and losses can be dramatic.

Commodities are not for the timid or for the right budget. But as long as the world needs coffee and cocoa, sugar and silver, then commodities will be traded.

And that creates an opportunity for investment that's very different from stocks and shares.

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Firm end to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday. Dealings End, Sept 14. \$ Contango Day, Sep 17; Settlement Day, Sep 24.
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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TEXTILES									
353	285	Allied Text	226	●	20.3	32	22	22	
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355	74	74 74 74 74 74	228	●	20.3	32	22	22	
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Favourites fall to Ireland

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Cricket: Old rivals meet in NatWest final at Lord's while Nottinghamshire edge closer to county championship

Gatting could tip the balance in the direction of Middlesex

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

The final of the NatWest Trophy at Lord's today between Middlesex and Kent offers about as appealing a match as the sponsors could wish for. I suppose a northern element might have added something more to it, but the game we have has no lack of flavour and brings together some of the best young players in the game, as well as such old favourites as Radley, Knott and Underwood.

There are factors which favour Middlesex, not least that for them it is a home fixture, and others which point to Kent. In the end the conditions could be crucial. A bright day and bony pitch would suit the faster, potentially more hostile Middlesex bowling. If the ball seams and swings around, it should be to Kent's advantage.

Except for Alderman, the Kent side are home-grown. Kent and their Australian bowler have struck up a good relationship. After a slow start to the season, Alderman has done them very well, and the two parties will have taught each other no bad habits.

In the Middlesex side are five players of West Indian extraction. The match does have fringe similarities with the Test series. As fierce a spell of fast bowling as I have seen this season was by Daniel, for Middlesex against Lancashire, in the quarter-finals of this competition. Kent have nothing to match that. But Middlesex have no one to compare with Alderman and Ellison should September mist make it a covey sort of day.

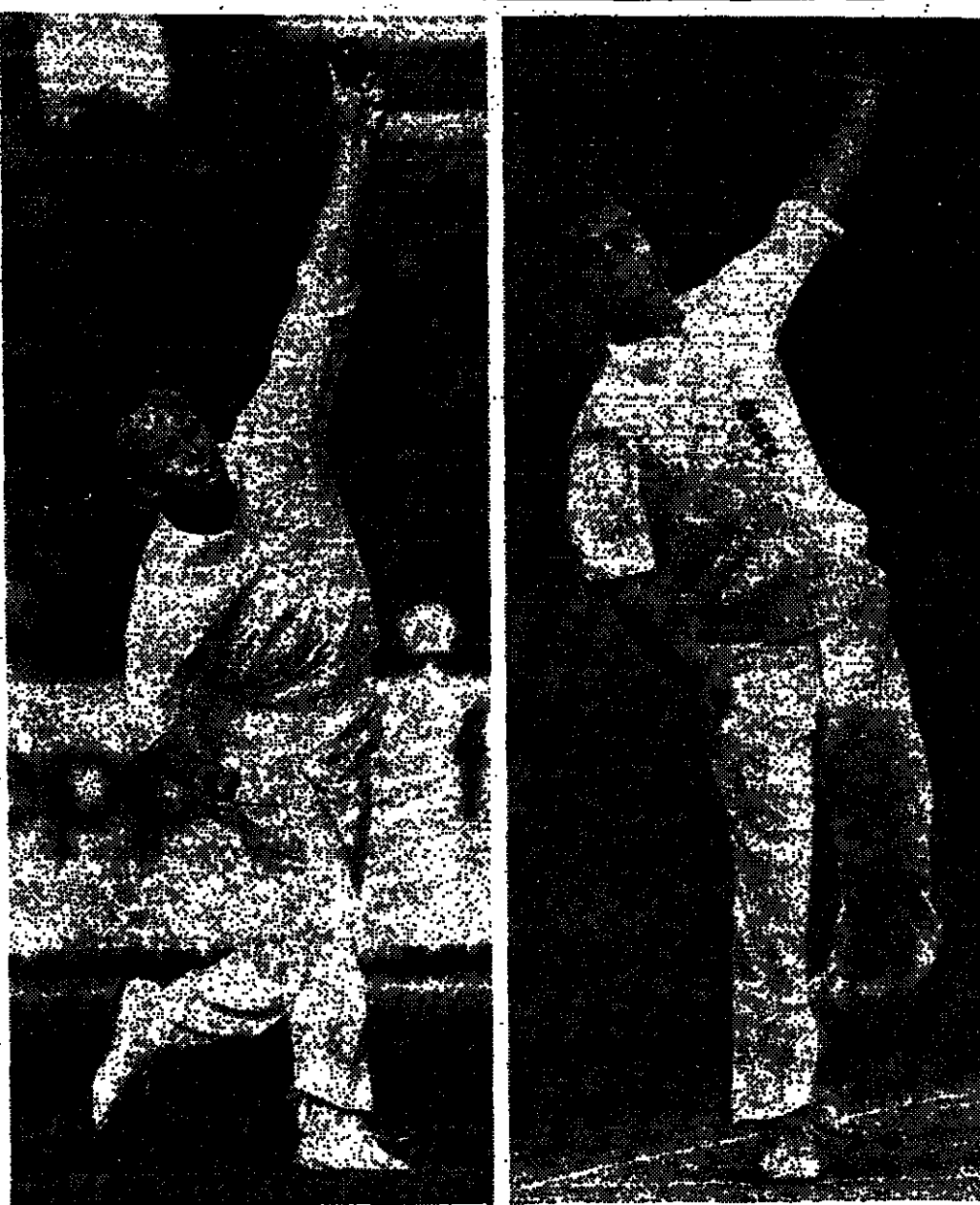
Also playing are the two best slow left-arm bowlers in England, Underwood and Edmondson. Underwood, I expect, will be back in the England side next season (he probably would be now if, like most

societies, cricket practised a rite of passage for the gaily, Edmondson, I fancy will go to India this winter, after a period in the wilderness. There is, in fact, hardly anyone in the match who has not been, or will not become, a Test cricketer. Nine of the Middlesex side already are.

Both sides are unpredictable, though Middlesex do not always give the impression of being as closely knit as Kent. When they met at Lord's in the Benson and Hedges Cup final early in the season, Kent were easily more impressive. Next day, in the John Player Sunday League, Middlesex won, having beaten Somerset at Taunton in the NatWest quarter-finals.

Kent, with half an attack, were given a hammering by the same Somerset side on Thursday. The bookmakers have made Middlesex the short-priced favourites. It looks more evenly balanced than that to me, if only because Middlesex depend so heavily on one man, their captain, for a winning total.

Gatting has been the inspiration of most of their best performances this season. These are seldom easy occasions, anyway, for captains. In the general commotion, communication on the field can be difficult, and there is the problem, if the toss is won, of deciding whether to give one of the bowlers the advantage of the pitch's morning life at the risk of batting in the dark. In eight of the last 10 years the side batting second has won the final. Kent did so in 1974 and Middlesex in 1980. Neither Kent nor Middlesex have won since NatWest became the competition's sponsors in 1981. Whoever wins today, English cricket should be seen in a better light than in the Test



Spinners in action today. Underwood, the old master (left) and Edmondson who wants to show that he can do just as well

mate against Sri Lanka last Saturday. There will not be the same lack of conviction and enterprise as there was then. Play starts at 10.30 and all the tickets have been sold. Anyone wanting a drink had better bring his own.

The Tavern bar, one of the three that serves the public, will be closed for the day. Many spectators, no doubt, have had their day ruined in recent finals by the mindless behaviour of a few drunken hoodlums on the

Tavern forecourt. It is a sad commentary on the times, however, when one of the ground's most famous features, an important facility and, in the past, the focal point of so much fun, has had to go. A temporary stand has been built for today behind the Tavern boxes.

MIDDLESEX (from: "M" W. Gatting, G. D. Barlow, W. N. Slack, C. T. Radley, P. O. Butler, P. R. Down, P. H. Edmondson, J. E. Embury, S. P. Hughes, N. G. Coward, W. D. Daniel, J. Carr. Umpires: S. J. Meyer and H. D. Bird.

KENT (from: "C" J. Tavaré, M. R. Benson, N. Taylor, D. G. Aslett, C. S. Cowdrey, G. W. Johnson, A. P. E. Knott, D. L. Underwood, T. M. Alderman, K. B. S. Jarvis, C. P. Farn.

Umpires: S. J. Meyer and H. D. Bird.

Only Aslett has an answer to Marks

By Peter Marson

TAUNTON: Somerset (60s) drew with Middlesex (4).

Somerset briefly caught the scent of victory here yesterday, when Vic Marks put in his best bowling performance, taking eight for 141. Aslett was rounded up in their second innings for 314. Aslett alone had been equal to Marks' examination in 45 searching overs. In an excellent display, he took 216 minutes, in which he hit six and 20 fours. Aslett gave Kent's innings substance until he became the seventh wicket to fall at 285, by which time his side had moved into a lead of 81 runs. Marks, with Booth's bow, then smartly polished off the remainder for 314 and with 13 overs to go that left Somerset with a target of 111 runs to win.

Somerset's nine runs in the first over meant they were going at the required rate, but Waterford and Underwood combined to bring down Booth in the second over and with 11 overs to go, Somerset were in a precarious position. Aslett, however, was not to be deterred. He took two overs remaining, 48 runs short.

Somerset had batted on in the morning and Underwood received compensation for some unusually rough handling on the previous day when he caught and bowled Gard.

KENT: First innings 280 (M. R. Taylor 138, T. M. Alderman 57). Second innings 152 (M. R. Benson 48, D. G. Aslett 314, C. S. Cowdrey 10, G. W. Johnson 10, A. P. E. Knott 10, D. L. Underwood 10, K. B. S. Jarvis 10, C. P. Farn 10).

MIDDLESEX: First innings 484 (P. O. Butler 125, N. F. M. Popham 72, T. M. Alderman 57). Second innings 192 (M. R. Benson 48, D. G. Aslett 314, C. S. Cowdrey 10, G. W. Johnson 10, A. P. E. Knott 10, D. L. Underwood 10, K. B. S. Jarvis 10, C. P. Farn 10).

Middlesex frustrate Essex but give Nottinghamshire joy

By John Woodcock

CHELMSFORD: Essex (60s) drew with Middlesex (4).

To the understandable disappointment of the home crowd, Middlesex gave priority yesterday to saving their match with Essex, which they did very comfortably, rather than making even a passing attempt at a victory over Essex. Nottinghamshire must now be firm favourites to win the county championship, sponsored by Britannia Assurance.

They are only one point behind Essex and have a match in hand. If Nottinghamshire win one of their last two games that should be enough, though neither Essex at Hove nor Somerset at Taunton will be a pushover.

Essex's match was allowed to become a farce, and it should not have been. Fletcher's declaration, leaving Middlesex to score 340 to win, was a cruel, perhaps, on the cautious side. Except when Gooch was in, no one had scored freely and also, as a result, Middlesex would have had to make the highest total of the match. It was a tallish order.

On the other hand, Fletcher so miscalculated the play that by testime he had cajoled Middlesex into a position from which it seemed well worth their while to have a go. Forty overs remained and Middlesex, needing another 193 to win, still had nine wickets left. Slack was in the nineties, with Gatting yet to come.

For all I know, Middlesex had an old score to settle with Essex, as they did, too good to miss. Or they may, I suppose have thought they owed it to Nottinghamshire to do nothing. At the same time, they have their own position in the championship to think of (there is £3,500 to be won by the side finishing third) as well as their match. They could have made an effort to win last night and at the same time run little risk of losing.

In the first hour yesterday Essex added 57 runs to their overnight 176 for while losing three wickets. Aslett, however, was not to be deterred. He took two overs remaining, 48 runs short.

ESSEX: First innings 320 (P. J. Pritchard 82, G. A. Gooch 82, D. H. Pridgen 50 not out, D. E. East 50, J. E. Embury 50). Second innings 171 (G. A. Gooch 82, D. H. Pridgen 50 not out, D. E. East 50, J. E. Embury 50).

MIDDLESEX: First innings 340 (P. O. Butler 125, N. F. M. Popham 72, T. M. Alderman 57). Second innings 192 (M. R. Benson 48, D. G. Aslett 314, C. S. Cowdrey 10, G. W. Johnson 10, A. P. E. Knott 10, D. L. Underwood 10, K. B. S. Jarvis 10, C. P. Farn 10).

Umpires: R. J. Allen and J. A. J. Jameson.

Tactics 'amaze' Fletcher

Essex's captain, Keith Fletcher, declared himself amazed that Middlesex made no attempt to chase the 340 target he set them in 95 overs. "I just couldn't understand Middlesex's tactics," he said. "They should have at least made the effort."

Middlesex's captain, Mike Gatting, said: "If Essex wanted to win that badly they should have provided a much more lively A target of 310 in around 100 overs would have been much more realistic."

Championship table

1983 positions in brackets	P	W	L	D	T	Bat	Bowl	Pts
Essex (1)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Nottingham (2)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Gloucestershire (3)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Warwickshire (4)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Leicestershire (5)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Derbyshire (6)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Yorkshire (7)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Surrey (8)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Northamptonshire (9)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Gloucestershire (10)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Warwickshire (11)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Leicestershire (12)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Derbyshire (13)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Yorkshire (14)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Surrey (15)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Northamptonshire (16)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Gloucestershire (17)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Warwickshire (18)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Leicestershire (19)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Derbyshire (20)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Yorkshire (21)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Surrey (22)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Northamptonshire (23)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Gloucestershire (24)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Warwickshire (25)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Leicestershire (26)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Derbyshire (27)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Yorkshire (28)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Surrey (29)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Northamptonshire (30)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Gloucestershire (31)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Warwickshire (32)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Leicestershire (33)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Derbyshire (34)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Yorkshire (35)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Surrey (36)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Northamptonshire (37)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Gloucestershire (38)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Warwickshire (39)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Leicestershire (40)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Derbyshire (41)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Yorkshire (42)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Surrey (43)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Northamptonshire (44)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Gloucestershire (45)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Warwickshire (46)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Leicestershire (47)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Derbyshire (48)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Yorkshire (49)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101
Surrey (50)	22	12	8	0	0	79	33	101

Kent vice-captain under scrutiny for England tour place

By Ivo Tennant

In recent years, the NatWest (or Gillette) final has become something of a trial for the winter's tour. A century or five wickets can secure an England place. Today, England's selectors will concern themselves in particular with a Cowdrey. A slimmer version than Colin, this one, sharper in his off-cricket and a different version altogether at the crease. But there is much in a name, and much in this name that is more of a hindrance than a help.

Christopher Cowdrey has gone much of the way towards overcoming the handicap bestowed upon him at birth. When he joined Kent's staff, aged 17, straight from school, he was under no illusions as to what was expected of him. "I shall not mind," he said, "if I'm not as good as my father, so long as I'm good enough."

It was always unlikely that he would be as good as Colin Cowdrey, who possessed a gift for games that bordered on genius. It makes Christopher's achievement in becoming a recognized cricketer in his own right all the more laudable.

There were occasions when Kent's followers, accustomed to success at the hands of Christopher, felt that he did not help. "If I was out for a duck, people

would ask why I didn't score any runs coming from my background. If I made a big score, they expected it. They seemed to think I was in the side only because of my father."

"Subconsciously, I altered my game. My father was primarily an off-side batsman so I concentrated more on playing to leg. If I put my back, and it has taken time to iron out my technique. In the last year, I have played straighter and developed my shots to the off."

This approach resulted, in 1983, in Christopher's finest season yet, after seven years on the periphery. He scored five first-class centuries and averaged over 50.

This summer he has followed the path his father took back in 1952, his first representative match was also for MCC, and he went on to win more than 100 England caps. Is his son, now 26, and Kent's vice-captain, good enough to follow him? He can, at least, take heart from the career of Richard Hutton.

"That'll never be as good as my

father," they used to tell him in Yorkshire. Perhaps not—but he played for England."

Comparisons can be odious, but they are inevitable. The most obvious difference between the two is that whereas Colin persuaded the ball to the boundary, Christopher is looking always to propel it. The elegance of the former has been way off the adaptability of the latter in a different era and a changed game.

Colin was a specialist slip fielder. These days, with so much limited-overs cricket, he would need to be competent away from the bat as well, as his son is. He might even be required to bowl, although probably something more containing than the leg-spin at which he was once quite adept.

Christopher, of course, has always been a useful medium-pace bowler. A most likeable person, with perhaps more in common with his father than is generally thought, Christopher has already captured a Kent side in which his youngest brother, Graham, was playing. One day he intends to write the definitive biography of his family. His grandfather, who named Colin in the initials of MCC, certainly started something.

Sussex, meanwhile, played ag-

gressive, disciplined cricket, and in Colin Wells and Parker have two batsmen at the peak of their form. Sussex put a swift but not exactly painful end to Gloucestershire yesterday. Victory was always going to be a formality and Gloucestershire would do what they had to as humanely as possible.

Trailing by 103 runs and with four second innings wickets in hand, Gloucestershire's only chance of survival lay with the overnight batsmen, Russell and Gravely. In the second over of the morning, however, Le Roux bowled a yorker at Russell which struck him full on the left knee.

Russell hobbled off, Lawrence was caught at slip for nought, and Russell gamely returned, only to be bowled by Jones. The dismissals of Walsh and Gravely—who had been kept for eight runs—followed with equal rapidity.

Le Roux finished with four for 24 and Jones a career-best five for 29. Jones was impressive. He takes a long run, but gets to the crease by the shortest route. In his action, and his eagerness, he is reminiscent of Peter Lever, formerly of Lancashire and England. Gloucestershire's batsmen, admittedly a far from regular, were regularly discomfited by him.

It is hard to see Gloucestershire improving on their lowly position next season without reinforcing their batting. The absence of Zahner was regularly felt, although it was grit, as much as class, that was needed here.

HOVE: Sussex (23pts) beat Gloucestershire (1) by an innings and 81 runs in the first of two matches.

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Favourites fall to Ireland

From George Ace

Ireland turned the form book upside down in the European youth team golf championship at the Hermitage Club, Dublin, yesterday, when they defeated the reigning champions, and pre-tournament favourites, Scotland, by a decisive margin of five and a half matches to one and a half.

The foundations for the surprising win were laid in the morning foursomes with Ireland winning both matches. In the top match, one of rare quality, Ireland and Scotland played a superb, well-fought, and with a strong wind posing numerous problems. Murphy and McHenry were two under par in defeating Montgomery and Vannet one up.

Carroll and O'Connell ended a tenuous struggle against Eastwood and Buchan on the 20th with a par four after Eastwood punched an eight-iron second, from a difficult lie, into a greenside bunker.

Ireland booked a semi-final place against Sweden by winning the first two singles, with Murphy defeating Montgomery two and one, and O'Connell winning the battle of the teenagers by a similar margin against Vannet, the current British boys' champion.

Ireland's victory was a surprise, as they were not expected to win. The Irish team, however, was a surprise, as they were not expected to win. The Irish team, however, was a surprise, as they were not expected to win.

Anderson moves out in front

From Mitchell Platt, Crans Montana

Jerry Anderson not only owned the outright lead after the second round of the European Masters, sponsored by Ebel, yesterday—he also introduced a new vocabulary to the game. After stretching a 66 to his aggregate of 129, which is 15 under par, the chunky Canadian revealed the secret behind his astonishing transformation from an every-day journeyman to the player they all have to watch.

I'm just keeping my eye on the sucker and accelerating through," explained Anderson. Which, translated, means he is observing the basic rules of golf, which are to look at the ball, keep the head still and swing slowly. Since Anderson is now 54 under par for his 14 rounds in Dublin, York, Frankfurt and here on the Crans-sur-Sierre course—over the last five weeks, it must be accepted that he currently possesses the Midas touch.

Moreover, as he freely admits, he has become one of life's great survivors. In 1972, his first season as a professional, he wrote off a car from which he stepped with three ribs cracked and twice as many broken severely bruised. Two years later he was "chopped" in a boat which he was piloting on the St. Lawrence when another vessel rammed into his at more than 20 knots. Then, last year, he was involved in another road accident when a car travelling at 50mph careened into his own. He and his wife Barbara stepped out unharmed.

"I've started to feel like a cat with nine lives," says the 28-year-old from Toronto. "So I've only got six to go and

RACING: IMPRESSIVE GALLOP EARNS CECIL FILLY VOTE OVER COLTS IN SOLARIO STAKES AT SANDOWN PARK

Piggott can bounce back at the double

Lester Piggott resumes race riding at Sandown Park today after being out of action for more than three weeks as the result of an injury caused when falling at Yarmouth on August 8. I will not be surprised if he keeps his many admirers in a happy frame of mind by winning two races for Henry Cecil on Oh So Sharp and Double Celt, his only rides of the day.

Oh So Sharp, my selection for the Solario Stakes, which is the main race on Sandown's annual charity day programme organized by the Variety Club of Great Britain, is a half-sister to two of the best fillies, Roussalka and Our Home. Although it was only a maiden race at Nottingham that she won earlier this month, Oh So Sharp still managed to give the impression that she too, is destined to take high rank. Yesterday our Newmarket correspondent told me that she had been living up to her name in her recent homework on the heath as well.

Today her opposition includes Young Runaway and St. Hilario, two unbeaten colts from Guy Harwood's stable, besides the Goodwood winner, Nunehuck. Brave Bambino, who finished third in the Seaton Develat Stakes at Newcastle, Soldat Bleu and Dubricius, who ran so promisingly behind Khoozam at Ascot in July.

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Significantly, Greville Starkey has picked Young Runaway in preference to St. Hilario. The form of both colts has worked out well but Young Runaway is probably the sharper, having won over only five furlongs at Goodwood in May. I expect him to turn out to be the main danger to Oh So Sharp.

After a long rest Double Celt was only just beaten in her last race at Newmarket, her strong finish failing to match the spoils by only a short head. There are grounds for thinking that she can step up on that performance in the Sportsman Club's Handicap Stakes and over today's distance she is napped to thwart Quickstart, who ran so well over much further at York.

Cree Bay will be wearing blinkers in the Mecca Book-

makers Sprint Handicap for the first time for four seasons and in view of his rather exasperating record this season in races of this nature I am banking on them now having the desired effect. Willie Carson, who rides him today, can also win the Lex Wilkinson Maiden Stakes on Dawn Star.

At Chester the Barry Magical Matchless Nursery Handicap is arguably the most open race of its type run this season. Having said that only a high draw, which could easily prove a big disadvantage around this sharp circuit prevented me from napping Ulla Laing, who won her last race at Windsor by seven lengths. Today her weight includes just a 5lb penalty for that success.

Scot Native, who was napped to Khoozam at Newbury last month, Video Rocket, Tuffel, Derring Miss, Westernman and Maymoun are others who can all be given good chances, but I still prefer Ulla Laing in spite of her draw.

If Midnight Gem fails to give 6lb to Matrah in the Lincolnhall Stakes, Joe Mercer, his jockey, Peter Walwyn, his trainer, should waste little time in picking up a nice consolation prize because Waggoner, who has won on the course already this season will be a tough nut to crack in the Barry Magical Surefire Handicap, even with 10st on his back.



Piggott: Oh So Sharp and Double Celt could give him a double on his first day back after a lay-off of three weeks

Cauthen at his leisure

Steve Cauthen carried on his high-scoring spree with a double at Sandown Park yesterday on Kelly's Royale and Suffice to take his score to 110, 29 ahead of his nearest rival, Pat Eddery, who won on Triangulum.

The American rode 30 winners in July - the month when he took over the championship lead - and he has topped that in August with 32 successes.

After switching to Chester tomorrow, Steve plans a two-day holiday next week. "I don't fancy Hamilton or Windsor, so I'm having a break on Monday and Tuesday," Cauthen said. He will be racing for a while on the golf course in the week before the big Doncaster meeting when he is due to ride the strong St. Leger fawn, Raymon, for the Aga Khan.

Yesterday Cauthen had two of his best 1984 victories. Kelly's Royale sprinted clear in the final furlong of the Orleans Nursery Handicap to beat the favourite, Sharp Ascent, by seven lengths. Then the American took the Barry Autumn Maiden Stakes by six lengths on Frankie Durr's unraced three-year-old, Suffice.

Northern Trick to return in triumph

From Desmond Stoneham, Paris

There are no English runners for the opening day of the autumn season at Longchamp, but the racing is nevertheless extremely interesting. The feature race tomorrow will be the Prix de la Nonette, which is a trial for the Prix Vermeille on September 16.

My selection for the 10-furlong contest is Northern Trick, who has not been seen since entering away from the Prix de Diane Hermel (French Oaks) on June 10. This daughter of Northern Dancer carries a group one penalty, but she should still defeat Treizecime, Hadyaya and Lady Trianon.

Cash Asmussen left Deauville last Wednesday to work Northern Trick on the Chantilly gallops and the young American reported at Longchamp yesterday that the filly is in perfect condition. Prior to her five-length victory over Grise

Mine in the Diane, Northern Trick had been a half-length runner-up to the same filly in the Prix St. Alary.

Maurice Zilber has a jockey problem as Alain Lequeux has been claimed for River Mare, thus leaving Treizecime without a partner 24 hours before declaration time.

This daughter of the Minstrel is unbeaten in all five races and she was most recently the winner of the Prix de Psyche at Deauville. Lightly-ridden because of a heel problem, Treizecime had previously won the Prix de la Grotte and last season defeated Truculent in the Grand Prix.

It is a great pity that no English trainer has sent a horse for the five-furlong Prix d'Arenberg as the race is suited to the sort of early two-year-old filly that the Chantilly filly is in perfect condition. Prior to her five-length victory over Grise

Give Thanks looks ready

Few of last season's top three-year-olds had a busier campaign than Give Thanks, the Irish Oaks winner, who is expected to take the Epsom Derby-winning jockey, Corrie Macdonald.

It was decided to keep her on in training this season, but Jim Bolger, her trainer, encountered problems and only now has been able to get her out to the course. She has her first outing of the year in the group three Brownstown Maiden, Fillys Stakes, over one and a half miles at the Curragh this afternoon.

Ironically, no sooner had Bolger managed to solve his equine problem than he was faced with the task of finding a substitute jockey,

as Declan Gillespie, who rode her in all her races last year, sustained a fractured leg. Bolger has offered the ride to Christy Roche, this year's Epsom Derby-winning jockey.

Opie is the English challenger with Pat Eddery aboard, but a more serious threat could be provided by Martin Dwyer, who ran third to Princess Paul in this year's Irish Oaks.

So Tolomeo and Adonijah are probable English challengers for next Saturday's Phoenix Champion Stakes. They could be joined by Lear Fan if Guy Harwood decides to run Rousillon in the Prix du Moulin du Longchamp in his place.

SANDOWN PARK

TV

Tevised: 1.30, 2.0, 2.30, 3.0]

GOING: good to firm

Draw: 5f low numbers best, 7f-11m high

TOTE: double 2.30, 3.35; treble 2.30, 3.0, 4.10

1.30 BERNARD SUNLEY SELLING STAKES (2-y-o: £3,588: 7f) (18 runners)

100 00 BOB AND PETER (W Douglas) Home 8-11 J Johnson 15
101 00 EASTER RABBIT (H Houlahan) 8-11 W R Thomas 15
102 00 HILTON (H Houlahan) 8-11 W R Thomas 15
103 00 JESSIE (H Houlahan) 8-11 W R Thomas 15
104 00 JESSIE (H Houlahan) 8-11 W R Thomas 15
105 00 JESSIE (H Houlahan) 8-11 W R Thomas 15
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Sandown selections

By Mandarin

1.30 Sun Up 2.00 Cree Bay 2.30 Oh So Sharp 3.0 DOUBLE CELT (nap)

3.35 Midnight Mouse 4.10 Dawn Star

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

1.30 Jay-Zee Boy 2.00 Water-Kohring 2.30 Oh So Sharp 3.0 Double Celt

3.35 Pink Star 4.10 Flexible Lad

CHESTER

BBC

Tevised: 2.0, 2.30, 3.0, 3.30]

GOING: good to firm

Draw: up to 7f, low numbers best

TOTE: double 3.0, 4.0; treble 2.30, 3.30, 4.30

2.0 LINCOLNHALL STAKES (2-y-o: £2,910: 6f) (10 runners)

3 301 MIDNIGHT GEM (W Walwyn) 8-11 J Mercer 5
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Chester selections

By Mandarin

2.0 Matrah 2.30 Waggoner 3.0 Ulla Laing 3.30 Bee's

4.0 Primavera Dancer 4.30 Runaway Lover

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.0 Matrah 2.30 Our Lady 3.0 Teufel 3.30 Diamond

4.0 Primavera Dancer 4.30 Al Mustajaz

RIPON

TV

Tevised: 1.45, 2.15, 2.45]

GOING: firm

Draw: 5f-8f, low numbers best

TOTE: double 1.45, 2.15, 2.45]

1.45 LAD RIVA HANDICAP (£1,725: 14f) (7 runners)

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Driest summer for many areas

By Christine Toomey

Some parts of Britain have had their driest summer since records began, meteorological statisticians said last night. By 9am today rainfall and temperature figures for the whole of the United Kingdom will be collated at the Weather Centre in Bracknell, Berkshire. But last night statisticians were confirming that certain parts of the country have had their driest six months since the turn of the century and in August alone the national rainfall average has fallen this year by half.

Patchy rainfall over parts of Britain in the past week has done little to alleviate the drought, water authority officials say. The forecast of rain spreading from the north to the south and west early next week, with temperatures dropping from the upper 70s this weekend to the middle to low 60s on Tuesday, will do little to help either.

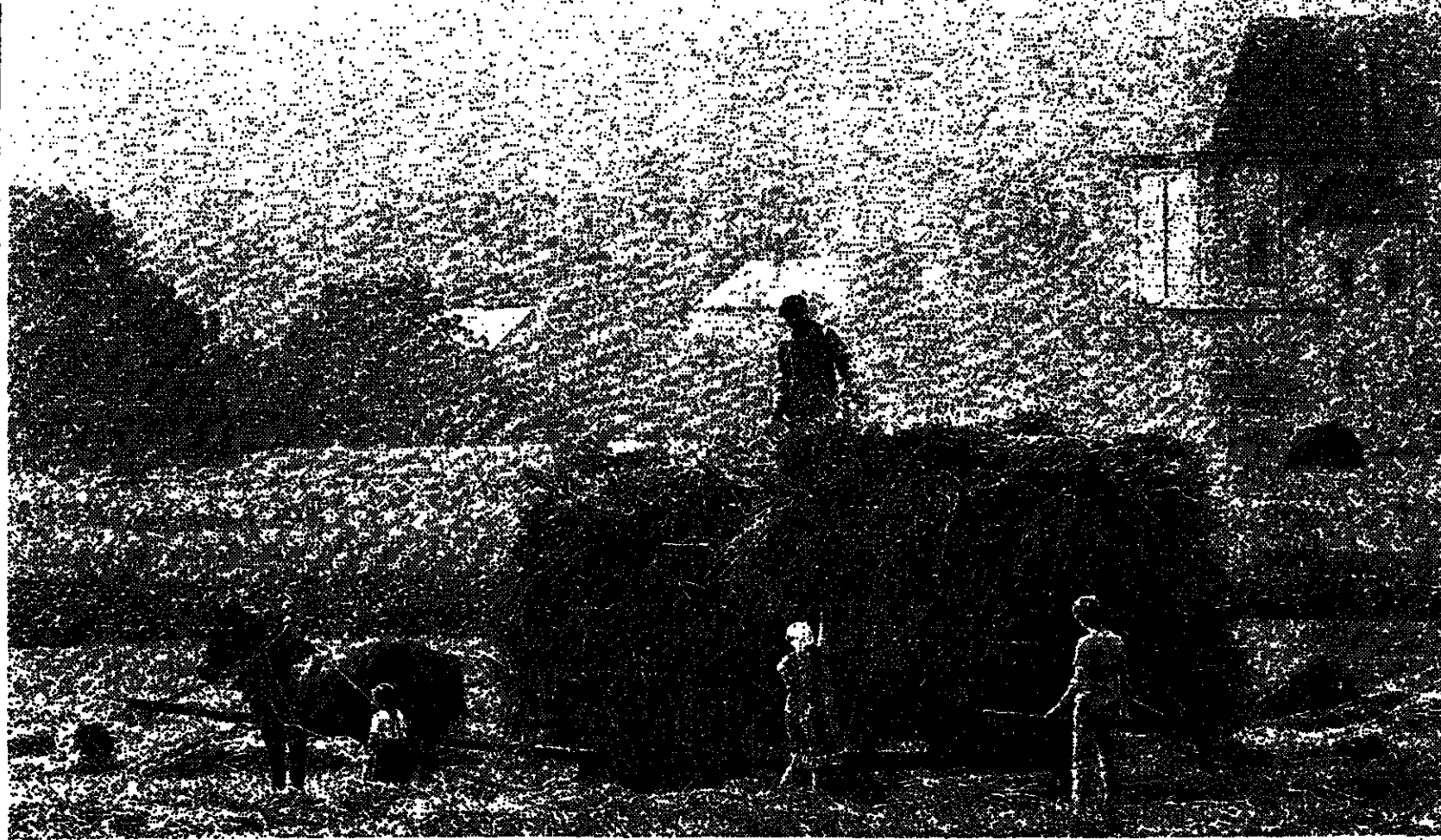
In the North-west, where the call to cut water consumption has brought the least response from the public, up to 45 million gallons of water are being pumped out of Lake Windermere every day. The North West Water Authority has had to earmark £300,000 for a huge operation at the lake to extend jetties left high and dry.

Yorkshire Water Authority announced yesterday that further restrictions on water use will have to be imposed in the Bradford and Craven areas.

In Scotland soaring temperatures have been causing havoc at a Lanarkshire sweets factory, where workers have had to start clocking in at 6am to meet production targets before the heat in the factory rises above 90°F, the temperature at which chocolate melts.

But in the South-west, one of the areas worst affected by the drought, the public response to the "save it" campaign has cut water consumption by 30 per cent.

In South-east Wales, where water consumption has also been cut substantially, the decision to impose rationing has been postponed until September 17.



Harvest of hope for Poland's peasants

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The harvest is drawing to a close in Poland. The sun beats down on the backs of peasants in Upper Silesia as they scythe and bundle the last of the crops; the landscape is undisturbed by tractors, combine harvesters or other twentieth century intruders.

The Roman Catholic church, traditionally close to the private farmers, has launched a multi-million dollar scheme to drag Polish agriculture into the modern age. The idea is to gather money in the West through churches, governments and industry and spend it on technology for selected projects in Poland.

The farmers would pay for the new tractors and machines in zloties and the Polish money would be

rechanneled into farming. The church has now collected almost the entire \$30m (about £23m) needed for the pilot schemes.

They will aim to boost milk production and improve its quality, improve water supplies, build up repair shops, supply spare parts for tractors and improve the output of fertilizer.

The true state of Polish agriculture was best revealed in a recent newspaper advertisement signed "Freezing farmer". It lamented the fact that long Johns are being supplied only on medical prescription. "For years I have been unable to buy warm underwear," the farmer wrote. "If I can find a pair, I will pay for them in honey, butter or bread."



Gathering in Polish-style (Photographs: Martin Mayer).

Letter from Cortonwood

Battling on at the Alamo

Miners have given the name The Alamo to the makeshift picket hut at the entrance to the Cortonwood colliery near Barnsley - the pit whose supposed closure sparked off the miners' strike nearly six months ago.

One picket at least was not too happy about the name. The Alamo, he pointed out, was eventually overrun, just as Cortonwood will have to close through exhaustion within five years come what may.

The miners accept that reality and agree that all the attendant problems of closure - the hurt they believe will be done to the local community - are only a short time away whether they win or lose, yet they fight as if they are trying to ensure a long-term future.

The coal board decision on Cortonwood, a 110-year old pit in Barnsley Brierley, an undistinguished Dearne Valley village, was taken in March and ensured the colliery a prominent place when the history of the current dispute is written. The coal board says that although it produced 280,000 tonnes of high quality coking coal, its extraction cost was £60 a tonne and its selling price only £40. The collapse of the steel industry destroyed the market and it has been sold more cheaply when possible to power stations.

The board says losses were mounting and reached £3m last year. NCB area director Mr George Hayes, facing the need to cut capacity by 500,000 tonnes in South Yorkshire as part of the national reduction of 4 million tonnes a year, took the decision that Cortonwood should go a few years before exhaustion forced closure.

The 820 miners were to be transferred to other South Yorkshire pits or take voluntary redundancy or early retirement. However, the plan advanced no further. Enraged Cortonwood miners sought the backing of the Yorkshire NUM and the strike started.

Twenty-five weeks later the pickets in the stifling hot Alamo hut (a stove burns constantly to boil water) and the wives of striking miners dishing out meals at 10p a head at the miners' welfare club, give little impression of

being involved in a fight for only a limited future for the Brampton pit.

It is about the future of the industry, they declare earnestly, not just Cortonwood but other pits which could face closure with 20 or 30 years of coal left, destroying the chances of thousands of miners' sons who have little prospect of other work.

Mr David Kenny, aged 27, a general labourer at the pit for 11 years said: "We know Cortonwood will have to close in five years, but in the meantime there is good quality coal to be mined and we want some control over our own destiny."

"When we lose the pit it will break down the community and we want to save it as long as we can. We have a good community spirit here and it is worth holding on to. Look what has happened in the inner cities. We don't want to follow."

The non-mining community at Brampton has apparently rallied strongly around the striking Cortonwood men and their wives who are equally committed to the strike. Gifts of food and money are commonplace in a community which is well aware of the significant part Cortonwood has played in the beginnings of the dispute. Journalists from all over the world have visited The Alamo and cuttings from international newspapers are pinned on the wall.

The vicar of Brampton, the Rev Nick Jowett and his wife Hilary, the Deaconess of the parish, have also become involved, helping to alleviate the hardship and collecting for a fund which has raised £1,500 for the miners' families. They have complete sympathy for the plight of the Cortonwood men, but they are also very concerned about the reluctance of the community to fully grasp that a future dependency on the pit is already desperately limited.

They said: "There is no tradition here of people being mobile. The last thing kids think of is moving away. They work alongside each other and socialize together and they fear that being torn apart."

Craig Seton

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron

Solution of Puzzle No 16,518

of Caravan Club, opens a Caravan Club rally at Ballater, Grampian, 10.

New exhibitions

Solution of Puzzle No 16,523

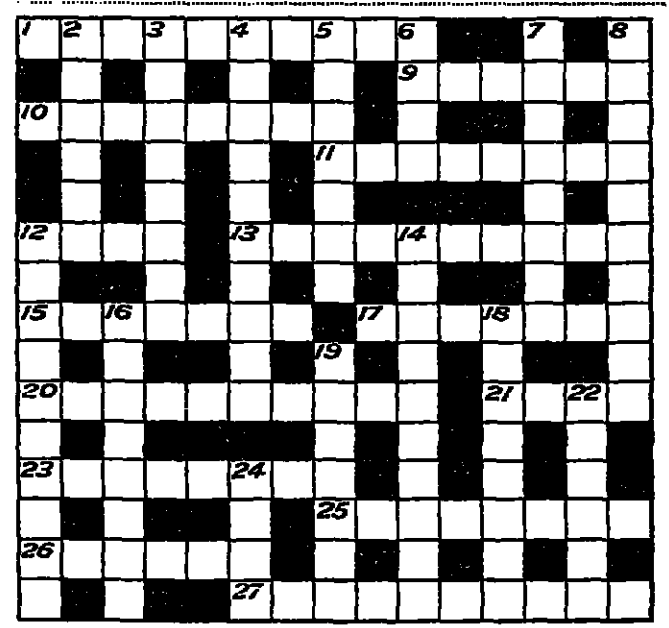
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,524

1 prize of The Times Atlas of the World (comprehensive edition) will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, 12, Colver Street, London WC9 9JF. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: Mr A. Chisholm, 50 Copwood Way, Northwood, Middlesex; Mr C. Hollingsworth, 35 High Street, Flit 2, Bangor, Gwynedd; Mrs J. Darg, 28 Watcombe Avenue, W. 11, Widdenden, London.

Name: _____

Address: _____



- ACROSS
- 1 Reads and records for the police (10).
 - 2 A steep requirement for converting foreign currency (6).
 - 3 Satisfied about blunder made with teeth (8).
 - 4 Get depressed when left suffering (8).
 - 5 Some nasty, even unsightly, swelling (4).
 - 6 Prudence, given no credit, is upset (10).
 - 7 A solvent - one to use with pitch (7).
 - 8 Honourable, genteel, quiet Conservatives (7).
 - 9 Figure of Parisian once hard to get into shape (10).
 - 10 A revolutionary act (4).
 - 11 Having to carry a seat some servicemen find a beastly nuisance (8).
 - 12 Frailty of the cat running out of its quota of lives (8).
 - 13 A run can make the trainee totter (6).
 - 14 Separate country and town (10).
- DOWN
- 1 Animal with firm back bearing a hard deal (6).
 - 2 Haul trend - it's quite wrong (8).
 - 3 At a late hop about giving service (10).
 - 4 In Spain there isn't one bridge (4).
 - 5 Diffident about losing interest (8).
 - 6 President flushing over not being backed (10).
 - 7 A good man - and yet coming to a stop (10).
 - 8 "is but want of power to sin" (Dryden) (10).
 - 9 Irresponsible conduct of a dundeehead in flight (8).
 - 10 Inn later completely reconstructed inside (8).
 - 11 The chumber's sole aid (7).
 - 12 Fruit for artist's home (6).
 - 13 Propellers going round are changing the direction (4).

The national final of the Collins Dictionaries Times Crossword Championship is on Sunday, September 9, at the Park Lane Hotel, London, at 1.30 pm. Admission £2.

CONCISE CROSSWORD, PAGE 16

In the garden

All electrical wiring indoors and in sheds, garages, or greenhouses, and portable electric tools should be checked by a competent electrician every two or three years. Do not forget to have extension leads checked as well. It is really easier to have electric greenhouse heating equipment checked each autumn.

Cut back perennials that have become straggly and lobelias, alyssum and calendulas to encourage another crop of flowers.

Greenhouse plants such as Primula obconica and cyclamen raised from seed earlier will now need re-potting into a size larger pot.

Many indoor plants may be propagated by cuttings now. Saintpaulia leaves root easily in water or sandy soil. If you wish to have really well flowered impressive saintpaulias, pull out the middle leaves.

Gardens open

P - Plants for sale

Today: Colchester: Mey Castle (Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother), on north coast facing Penland Firth; old walled garden: 2 to 7. Gloucestershire: Kiftgate Court, 3m NE of Chipping Campden, adjacent to Hildote National Trust garden; many unusual plants and shrubs; old and species roses, including the largest rose plant in England. Also open Sundays, Wednesday and Thursday until September 30; P. 2 to 6.

TOMORROW: Suffolk: five gardens at Milden; off A1141 to Milden between Levenham and Marks Elight. That of Milden Hall alone is well worth a visit: 2 to 6. Somerset: Barrington Court, nr Ilminster, 14m NW of A604 between Halstead and Haverhill; stud farm, moat, yew hedges, herbaceous, rose garden, ornamental ducks: 2 to 6. Gloucestershire: Westonbirt School gardens, Tetbury, 1.5m from Westonbirt; 22 acres, fine trees and shrubs, Arboretum, miniature railway, garden trail for youngsters: 2 to 5.30. Essex: Moyate Park, Birdbrook, 1m SW of A604 between Halstead and Haverhill; stud farm, moat, yew hedges, herbaceous, rose garden, ornamental ducks: 2 to 6. Gloucestershire: Westonbirt School gardens, Tetbury, 1.5m from Westonbirt; 22 acres, fine trees and shrubs, Arboretum, miniature railway, garden trail for youngsters: 2 to 5.30. Essex: Moyate Park, Birdbrook, 1m SW of A604 between Halstead and Haverhill; stud farm, moat, yew hedges, herbaceous, rose garden, ornamental ducks: 2 to 6. 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